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# Lyra Germanica:

SECOND SERIES :

THE CHRISTIAN LIFE.



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## THE CHRISTIAN LIFE.

TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN BY  
CATHERINE WINKWORTH.

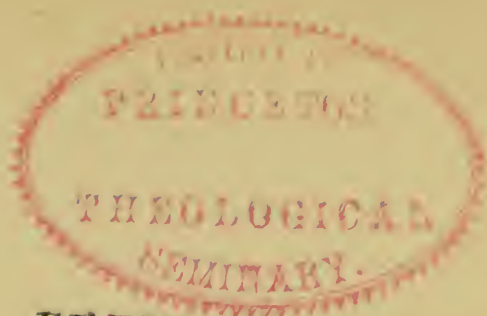
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## PREFACE.

**T**HOSE who are best acquainted with the rich stores of German hymnology will feel the least surprise at the appearance of a second series of Translations from the same source. Many excellent and classical compositions were necessarily excluded from the plan of the former volume, which it was felt would still be no less acceptable than those already translated, to English Christians. In this series therefore hymns are admitted of a more personal and individual character than in the former, hymns adapted to particular circumstances or periods of life, and to peculiar states of feeling. At the same time many will be found of sufficiently comprehensive import to be suited for congregational singing, and will be recognized by those familiar with the services of the German Church as constantly used there in public worship, especially those on pages 194, 196, 226, and

99. The first of these indeed holds in Germany, with its fine old tune, much the same place as the Old Hundredth with us. The second is remarkable as being, as far as we know, the only hymn of its author, a man of consideration and wealth in Frankfort. It was published without his name, and as it immediately became popular it was ascribed at first to Hugo Grotius, and other celebrated authors. The third is one of the well-known hymns of Joachim Neander, the most important hymn-writer of the German Reformed Church, whose productions are marked by great depth and tenderness of feeling.

Most of the hymns under the last two divisions of this series are popular in Protestant Germany in the truest sense of the word, to be found in the well-worn hymns-books of every cottage home, or heard as the village funeral passes on to the "court of peace." It will be observed that one of the hymns for the burial of the dead bears the name of Michael Weifs, and that some others are designated as belonging to the Bohemian Brethren. These are productions of that ancient Church which existed

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in Bohemia from the first introduction of Christianity into that country by two Greek monks of the eighth century. In the eleventh century it formed itself into a separate community, distinguished from the Roman Church in Bohemia, among other things, by the celebration of public worship according to the native ritual and in the vulgar tongue. After suffering bitter persecutions under various Popes, in one of which John Hus was burnt in 1415, in 1453 its remaining members, including men of all classes, withdrew to a district assigned to them on the borders of Silesia and Moravia, where we find them, fifty years later, numbering about two hundred congregations, under the name of Brethren or United Brethren. But here too fierce persecutions followed them; their countrymen were incited from the pulpits to hunt them down like wild beasts; and in 1508, despairing of peace at home, they sent out four messengers to search whether anywhere a Christian people might be found, serving Christ truly, into whose communion they might ask admission. One of these brethren went to Russia, one to Greece, one to Bulgaria, and one to

Palestine and Egypt; but they all returned unsuccessful, no such Christian people had they found. Two more were then sent to the Waldenses in France and Italy, but they too brought back nothing but admonitions to patience and steadfastness. The Brethren therefore remained in their own country, and occupied themselves in printing the Bible, no fewer than three editions having been published in Bohemian before the Reformation. The dawn of that great event filled them with joy, and in 1522 they sent two messengers to Luther to greet him and ask his advice, one of whom was Michael Weifs. In 1531 Michael Weifs published the hymns of the Bohemian Brethren translated into German, with the addition of several of his own. They passed through many editions, and some of them were introduced into Luther's hymn-book. They have great warmth of feeling, and directness of expression, often with intricate metres, and are marked by frequent pathetic reference to the troubles of this Church, and by a strong sense of the living union of Christians with each other and their Head. The subsequent settlement of the

small remnant of this Church on Count Zinzendorf's estates in Saxony, and its rapid growth and spread into other countries are well known. That the spirit of Christian poetry still lives among them in modern times is proved by the names of Zinzendorf, Christian Gregor, L. von Hayn, Spangenberg, and Albertini.\*

As the object of this work is chiefly devotional, the hymns are arranged according to their subjects, not in chronological order, and have been selected for their warmth of feeling and depth of Christian experience, rather than as specimens of a particular master or school. Still it is believed that these two series afford on the whole fair examples of most of the principal writers, not of course without omissions, since only about two hundred and twenty hymns are given from a literature containing several thousands. Of Luther none are given in this series, (unless that hymn known as "Queen Maria of Hungary's song" were written by him for that prin-

\* See Bunfen's larger *Gefangbuch*, and *Sketch of the History of the Church of the United Brethren* by James Montgomery.

cess,) for those productions of his which no collection of German hymns could omit, had been already inserted in the previous volume, and there seemed the less necessity for introducing any of minor importance, as all his hymns are accessible to the English reader in the excellent translation of Mr. Massie.\*

The writers perhaps the least fully represented, are Gellert, Klopstock, and others of the middle and latter half of the last century, whose productions constitute a large proportion of most of the collections made fifty or sixty years ago. But these hymns are, for the most part, either of a purely reflective or didactic character, or in very many instances are merely versions of more ancient hymns, smoothed down to a dead level of tame correctness in form, and robbed of their original fervour and strength. Gellert, however, appreciated the characteristic excellences of the ancient hymns, and his own have high merit, as lessons of Christian duty,

\* Spiritual Songs of Luther, translated by R. Massie, Esq.

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or paraphrases of Scripture, expressed in simple, clear, and unaffected verse, sometimes with much true poetic feeling. Yet while they thus supplied a want among the hymns of his country,—which, during the last century especially, had lost that direct application to real life which makes a hymn speak to the hearts of all,—and have therefore become very popular in Germany, yet for the same reason they more nearly resemble what we already possess in our own language.

There is a very large school of hymn-writers springing up in Germany at the present day, whose works are distinguished by much thoughtful feeling and great fluency and sweetness of expression. In general, however, these hymns are suited rather to private reading, than congregational singing; the length of the lines, and the reflective tone of thought, deprive them of that strength and simple grandeur which many of the older hymns possess. Specimens are given here from Spitta, Puchta, Knapp, Hensel, and others; those hymns to which no dates are affixed being written by authors living or very recently deceased.

The hymns in this series have been chosen from various sources, most of them being such as would be found in any standard collection. The greater number, however, are taken from Bunfen's "*Versuch eines allgemeinen Gesang und Gebet buchs*," a collection distinguished above most others by its wide range of Christian experience and sympathy, and the poetic merit of the versions it gives. The short notices prefixed to some of these hymns are derived from the same source.

One or two verses have been omitted in several of the hymns; for in many instances even fine hymns are weakened by repetition, or disfigured by verses of decidedle inferior merits; this is especially the case with Paul Gerhardt, notwithstanding the remarkable beauty of his works. The original metre has been almost invariably maintained; in some hymns metres strange to our ears have been preserved with care for the sake of the fine chorales attached to them.

Alderley Edge,

May 19th, 1858.

\* \* From the frequent inquiries received from clergymen and others for tunes adapted to these hymns, it has been determined to bring out an edition of the work, containing some of the fine old German chorales to which in their own country they are sung by vast congregations, arranged for use in choirs and families.





# CONTENTS.

## PART I.

### AIDS OF THE CHURCH.

HOLY SEASONS.	Page
Advent . . . . .	21
Christmas . . . . .	37
Epiphany . . . . .	41
Passion Week . . . . .	49
Easter . . . . .	62
Ascension . . . . .	73
Whitsuntide . . . . .	81
Trinity . . . . .	91

### SERVICES.

Morning Prayer . . . . .	97
Evening Prayer . . . . .	110
Baptism . . . . .	122
The Holy Communion . . . . .	131
For Travellers . . . . .	143
At the Burial of the Dead . . . . .	161

## PART II.

## THE INNER LIFE.

Penitence . . . . .	175
Praise and Thanksgiving . . . . .	194
The Life of Faith . . . . .	212
Songs of the Cross . . . . .	236
The Final Conflict and Heaven . . . . .	266

LYRA GERMANICA.



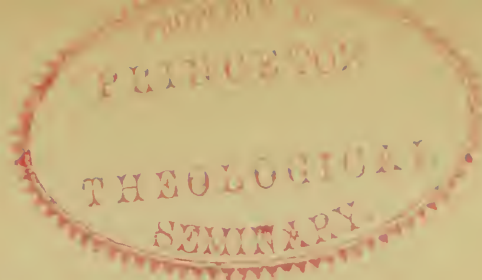
PART I.

AIDS OF THE CHURCH.

I. HOLY SEASONS.

II. SERVICES.





# Holy Seasons.



## ADVENT.

### I.

#### THE DAYSPRING FROM ON HIGH.

**D**E heavens, oh haste your dewes to shed,  
Ye clouds, rain gladness on our head,  
Thou earth, behold the time of grace,  
And blossom forth in righteousness!

O living Sun, with joy break forth,  
And pierce the gloomy clefts of earth;  
Behold, the mountains melt away  
Like wax beneath thine ardent ray!

O Life-dew of the Churches, come,  
And bid this arid desert bloom!  
The sorrows of Thy people see,  
And take our human flesh on Thee.

Refresh the parch'd and drooping mind,  
The broken limb in mercy bind,  
Us sinners from our guilt release,  
And fill us with Thy heavenly peace.

O wonder ! night no more is night !  
Comes then at last the long'd-for light ?  
Ah yes, Thou shinest, O true Sun,  
In whom are God and man made one !

J. FRANCK. 1653.

## II.

## THE DELIVERER.



RISE, the kingdom is at hand,  
The King is drawing nigh;  
Arise with joy, thou faithful band,  
To meet the Lord most high!

Ye Christians, hasten forth,  
With holy ardours greet your King,  
And glad Hosannas to Him sing,  
Nought else your love is worth.

Look up, ye drooping hearts, to-day!  
The King is very near,  
Oh cast your griefs and fears away,  
For lo! your Help is here;  
And comfort rich and sweet  
In many a place for us is stored,  
Where in His sacraments and word  
Our Saviour we can meet.

Look up, ye souls weigh'd down with care!  
The Sovereign is not far.  
Look up, faint hearts, from your despair,  
Behold the Morning Star!  
The Lord is with us now,  
Who shall the sinking spirit feed  
With strength and comfort at its need,  
To whom e'en Death shall bow.


Hope, O ye broken hearts, at last!  
The King comes on in might,  
He loved us in the ages past  
When we sat wrapp'd in night;  
Now are our sorrows o'er,  
And fear and wrath to joy give place,  
Since God hath made us in His grace  
His children evermore.

O rich the gifts Thou bringest us,  
Thyself made poor and weak;  
O love beyond compare that thus  
Can foes and sinners seek!  
For this to Thee alone  
We raise on high a gladsome voice,  
And evermore with thanks rejoice  
Before Thy glorious throne.

R15R. 1651.

## III.

THE HEART LONGING FOR THE INNER  
ADVENT.

 HEREFORÉ dost Thou longer tarry,  
Blessed of the Lord, afar?  
Would it were Thy will to enter  
To my heart, O Thou my Star,  
Thou my Jesus, Fount of power,  
Helper in the needful hour!  
Sharpest wounds my heart is feeling,  
Touch them, Saviour, with Thy healing!

For I shrink beneath the terrors  
Of the law's tremendous sway;  
All my countless crimes and errors  
Stand before me night and day.  
Oh the heavy, fearful load  
Of the righteous wrath of God!  
Oh the awful voice of thunder  
Cleaving heart and soul asunder!

While the foe my soul is telling,  
"There is grace no more for thee,  
Thou must make thy endless dwelling  
In the pains that torture me."

Yes, and keener still thy smart,  
Conscience, in my anguished heart,  
By thy venom'd tooth tormented,  
Long-past sins are fore repented.

Would I then, to soothe my sorrow  
And my pain awhile forget,  
From the world a comfort borrow,  
I but sink the deeper yet ;  
She hath comforts that but grieve,  
Joys that stinging memories leave,  
Helpers that my heart are breaking,  
Friends that do but mock its aching.

All the world can give is cheating,  
Strengthless all, and merely nought ;  
Have I greatness, it is fleeting ;  
Have I riches, are they aught  
But a heap of glittering earth ?  
Pleasure ? Little is it worth  
When it brings no joy or laughter  
That thou wilt not rue hereafter.

All delight, all consolation  
Lies in Thee, Lord Jesus Christ,  
Feed my soul with Thy salvation,  
O Thou Bread of Life unpriced.  
Blessed Light, within me glow,  
Ere my heart breaks in its woe ;  
Oh refresh me and uphold me,  
Jesus, come, let me behold Thee.

Joy, my soul, for He hath heard thee,  
He will come and enter in ;  
Lo ! He turns and draweth toward thee,  
Let thy welcome-song begin ;  
Oh prepare thee for such guest,  
Give thee wholly to thy rest,  
With an open'd heart adore Him,  
Pour thy griefs and fears before Him.

'Thy misdeeds are thine no longer,  
He hath cast them in the sea,  
And the love of God shall conquer  
All the strength of sin in thee.  
Christ is victor in the field,  
Mightiest wrong to Him must yield,  
He with blessing will exalt thee  
O'er whate'er would here assault thee.

What would seem to hurt or shame thee  
Shall but work thy good at last ;  
Since that Christ hath deign'd to claim thee,  
And His truth stands ever fast ;  
And if thine can but endure,  
There is nought so fixed and sure,  
As that thou shalt hymn His praises  
In the happy heavenly places.

GERHARDT. 1653.

## IV.

## THE NEW YEAR.

COMPOSED on his journey to Gotha after his unjust expulsion from Erfurt; as we are told in the oration delivered at his grave, "in the full experience of the unspeakable consolations of the Holy Spirit."



HANK God that towards eternity

Another step is won!

Oh longing turns my heart to Thee

As time flows slowly on,

Thou Fountain whence my life is born,

Whence those rich streams of grace are drawn

That through my being run!

I count the hours, the days, the years,

That stretch in tedious line,

Until, O Life, that hour appears,

When, at Thy touch divine,

Whate'er is mortal now in me

Shall be consumed for aye in Thee,

And deathless life be mine.

So glows Thy love within this frame,

That, touch'd with keenest fire,

My whole soul kindles in the flame

Of one intense desire,

To be in Thee, and Thou in me,  
And e'en while yet on earth to be  
Still pressing closer, nigher !

Oh that I soon might Thee behold !  
I count the moments o'er ;  
Ah come, ere yet my heart grows cold  
And cannot call Thee more !  
Come in Thy glory, for Thy Bride  
Hath girt her for the holy-tide,  
And waiteth at the door.

And since Thy Spirit sheds abroad  
The oil of grace in me,  
And thou art inly near me, Lord,  
And I am lost in Thee,  
So shines in me the Living Light,  
And steadfast burns my lamp and bright,  
To greet Thee joyously.

Come ! is the voice, then, of Thy Bride,  
She loudly prays Thee come !  
With faithful heart she long hath cried,  
Come quickly, Jesus, come !  
Come, O my Bridegroom, Lamb of God,  
Thou knowest I am Thine, my Lord  
Come down and take me home.

Yet be the hour that none can tell  
Left wholly to Thy choice,  
Although I know thou lov'st it well,

That I with heart and voice  
Should bid Thee come, and from this day  
Care but to meet Thee on Thy way,  
And at Thy sight rejoice !

I joy that from Thy love divine  
No power can part me now,  
That I may dare to call Thee mine,  
My Friend, My Lord, avow,  
That I, O Prince of Life, shall be  
Made wholly one in heaven with Thee,  
My portion, Lord, art Thou !

And therefore do my thanks o'erflow,  
That one more year is gone,  
And of this Time, so poor, so slow,  
Another step is won ;  
And, with a heart that may not wait,  
Toward yonder distant golden gate  
I journey gladly on.

And when the wearied hands grow weak,  
And wearied knees give way,  
To sinking faith, oh quickly speak,  
And make Thine arm my stay ;  
That so my heart drink in new strength,  
And I speed on, nor feel the length  
Nor steepness of the way.

Then on, my soul, with fearless faith,  
Let nought thy terror move ;

---

Nor aught that earthly pleasure faith  
E'er tempt thy steps to rove ;  
If slow thy course seem o'er the waste,  
Mount upwards with the eagle's haste,  
On wings of tireless love.

O Jesus, all my soul hath flown  
Already up to Thee,  
For Thou, in whom is love alone,  
Hast wholly conquer'd me.  
Farewell ye phantoms, day and year,  
Eternity is round me here,  
Since, Lord, I live in Thee.

A. H. FRANCKE, 1691.

## CHRISTMAS.

## I.

## A SONG OF JOY AT DAWN.



ALL my heart this night rejoices,  
As I hear,  
Far and near,  
Sweetest angel voices ;

“ Christ is born,” their choirs are singing,  
Till the air  
Everywhere  
Now with joy is ringing.

For it dawns,—the promised morrow  
Of His birth  
Who the earth  
Rescues from her sorrow.  
God to wear our form descendeth,  
Of His grace  
To our race  
Here His Son He lendeth ;

Yea, so truly for us careth,  
     That His Son  
     All we've done  
 As our offering beareth;  
 As our Lamb who, dying for us,  
     Bears our load,  
     And to God  
 Doth in peace restore us.

Hark! a voice from yonder manger,  
     Soft and sweet,  
     Doth entreat,  
 "Flee from woe and danger;  
 Brethren come, from all doth grieve you  
     You are freed,  
     All you need  
 I will surely give you."

Come then, let us hasten yonder;  
     Here let all,  
     Great and small,  
 Kneel in awe and wonder,  
 Love Him who with love is yearning;  
     Hail the Star  
     That from far  
 Bright with hope is burning!

Ye who pine in weary sadness,  
     Weep no more,  
     For the door  
 Now is found of gladness.

Cling to Him, for He will guide you  
Where no cross  
Pain or loss,  
Can again betide you.

Hither come, ye heavy-hearted ;  
Who for sin  
Deep within,  
Long and sore have smarted ;  
For the poison'd wounds you're feeling  
Help is near,  
One is here  
Mighty for their healing !

Hither come, ye poor and wretched ;  
Know His will  
Is to fill  
Every hand outstretched ;  
Here are riches without measure,  
Here forget  
All regret,  
Fill your hearts with treasure.


Blessed Saviour, let me find Thee ?  
Keep Thou me  
Close to Thee,  
Cast me not behind Thee !  
Life of life, my heart Thou stillest,  
Calm I rest  
On Thy breast,  
All this void Thou fillest.

Heedfully my Lord I'll cherish,  
Live to Thee,  
And with Thee  
Dying shall not perish ;  
But shall dwell with Thee for ever,  
Far on high,  
In the joy  
That can alter never.

PAUL GERHARDT. 1651.

## II.

WE LOVE HIM FOR HE FIRST  
LOVED US.

HOU fairest Child Divine  
In yonder manger laid,  
In whom is God Himself well pleased,  
By whom were all things made,  
On me art Thou bestow'd ;  
How can such wonders be !  
The dearest that the Father hath  
He gives me here in Thee !

I was a foe to God,  
I fought in Satan's host,  
I trifled all His grace away,  
Alas ! my soul was lost.  
Yet God forgets my sin,  
His heart, with pity moved,  
He gives me, Heavenly Child, in Thee ;  
Lo ! thus our God hath loved !

Once blind with sin and self,  
Along the treacherous way,  
That ends in ruin at the last,  
I hasten'd far astray ;

Then God sent down His Son ;  
For with a love most deep,  
Most undeserved, His heart still yearn'd  
O'er me, poor wandering sheep !

God with His life of love  
To me was far and strange,  
My heart clung only to the world  
Of sight and sense and change ;  
In Thee, Immanuel,  
Are God and man made one ;  
In Thee my heart hath peace with God,  
And union in the Son.

Oh ponder this, my soul,  
Our God hath loved us thus,  
That even His only dearest Son  
He freely giveth us.  
Thou precious gift of God,  
The pledge and bond of love,  
With thankful heart I kneel to take  
This treasure from above.

I kneel beside Thy couch,  
I press Thee to my heart,  
For Thee I gladly all forsake  
And from the creature part :  
Thou priceless Pearl ! lo, he  
By whom Thou'rt loved and known,  
Will give himself and all he hath  
To win Thee for his own.

Oh come, Thou Blessed Child,  
Thou Saviour of my soul,  
For ever bound to Thee, my name  
Among Thy host enrol.  
Oh deign to take my heart,  
And let Thy heart be mine,  
That all my love flow out to Thee,  
And lose itself in Thine,

TERSTEEGEN. 1731.

## III.

## GOD WITH US.



BLESSED Jefus! This  
Thy lowly manger is  
The Paradife where oft my foul would feed:  
Here is the place, my Lord,  
Where lies the Eternal Word  
Clothed with our flefh, made like to us indeed.

For He whose mighty fway  
The winds and feas obey,  
Submits to ferve, and ftoops to thofe who fin;  
The glorious Son of God  
Doth bear the mortal load  
Of earth and duft, like us and all our kin.

For thus, O Good Supreme,  
Wilt Thou our flefh redeem,  
And raife it to Thy throne o'er every height:  
Eternal Strength, here Thou  
To brotherhood doft bow  
With tranfient things that pafs like mifts of night.

Thy glory and Thy joy  
All woe and grief deftroy;  
Thou, Heavenly Treasure, doft all wealth reftore!  
Thou deep and living Well!

Thou great Immanuel  
Dost conquer sin and death for evermore!

Then come, whoc'er thou art,  
O poor desponding heart,  
Take courage now, let this thy fears dispel,  
That since His Son most dear  
Thy God hath given thee here,  
It cannot be but God doth love thee well.

How often dost thou think  
That thou must surely sink,  
That hope and comfort are no more for thee;  
Come hither then and gaze  
Upon this Infant's face,  
And here the love of God incarnate see.

Ah now the blessed door  
Stands open evermore  
To all the joys of this world and the next:  
This Babe will be our Friend,  
And quickly make an end  
Of all that faithful hearts long time hath vex'd.

Then, earth, we care no more  
To seek thy richest store,  
If but this treasure will be still our own;  
And he who holds it fast,  
Till all this life is past,  
Our Lord will crown with joy before His throne.

PAUL GERHARDT.

# EPIPHANY.

## I.

### THE KING OF MEN.



KING of Glory! David's Son!

Our Sovereign and our Friend!

In Heaven for ever stands Thy throne,

Thy kingdom hath no end:

Oh now to all men, far and near,

Lord, make it known, we pray,

That as in heaven all creatures here

May know Thee and obey.

The Eastern sages gladly bring

Their tribute-gifts to Thee;

They witness that Thou art their King

And humbly bow the knee;

To Thee the Morning Star doth lead,

To Thee th' inspired Word,

We hail Thee, Saviour, in our need,

We worship Thee, the Lord.

Ah look on me with pitying grace,  
Though I am weak and poor,  
Within Thy kingdom grant me place  
To dwell there blest and sure.  
Oh rescue me from all my woes,  
And shield me with thine arm  
From Sin and Death, the mighty foes,  
That daily seek our harm.

And bid Thy Word, the fairest Star,  
Within us clearly shine ;  
Keep sin and all false doctrine far,  
Since Thou hast claim'd us Thine.  
Let us Thy name aright confess,  
And with Thy Christendom,  
Our King and Saviour own and bless  
Through all the world to come.

BEHEMB. 1606.

## II.

## THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.



CHRIST, our true and only Light,  
Illumine those who sit in night,  
Let those afar now hear Thy voice,  
And in Thy fold with us rejoice.

Fill with the radiance of Thy grace  
The souls now lost in error's maze,  
And all in whom their secret minds  
Some dark delusion hurts and blinds.

And all who else have stray'd from thee,  
Oh gently seek ! Thy healing be  
To every wounded conscience given,  
And let them also share Thy heaven.

Oh make the deaf to hear Thy word,  
And teach the dumb to speak, dear Lord,  
Who dare not yet the faith avow,  
Though secretly they hold it now.


Shine on the darken'd and the cold,  
Recall the wanderers from Thy fold,  
Unite those now who walk apart,  
Confirm the weak and doubting heart.

So they with us may evermore  
Such grace with wondering thanks adore,  
And endless praise to thee be given  
By all Thy Church in earth and heaven,

J. HEERMANN. 1630.

## III.

FORSAKING ALL FOR THE TRUE  
LIGHT.

 S thy heart athirst to know  
That the King of heaven and earth  
Deigns to dwell with man below,  
Yea, hath stooped to mortal birth?  
Search the Word with ceaseless care  
Till Thou find this treasure there.

With the sages from afar  
Journey on o'er sea and land  
Till thou see the Morning Star  
O'er thy heart unchanging stand,  
Then shalt thou behold His face  
Full of mercy, truth and grace.

For if Christ be born within,  
Soon that likeness shall appear  
Which the heart had lost through sin,  
God's own image fair and clear,  
And the soul serene and bright  
Mirrors back His heavenly light.


Jefus, let me feek for nought  
But that 'Thou shouldst dwell in me ;  
Let this only fill my thought,  
How I may grow liker 'Thee,  
Through this earthly care and strife,  
Through the calm eternal life.

With the wife who know thee right,  
Though the world accounts them fools,  
I will praife 'Thee day and night,  
I will order by 'Thy rules  
All my life, that it may be  
Fill'd with praife and love of 'Thee.

LAURENTIUS LAURENTI. 1700.

## IV.

## CHRIST OUR EXAMPLE.

VER would I fain be reading  
In the ancient holy Book,  
Of my Saviour's gentle pleading,  
Truth in every word and look.

How when children came He blest'd them,  
Suffer' no man to reprove,  
Took them in his arms, and press'd them  
To His heart with words of love.

How all the sick and tearful  
Help was ever gladly shown ;  
How He fought the poor and fearful,  
Call'd them brothers and His own.

How no contrite soul e'er fought Him,  
And was bidden to depart,  
How with gentle words He taught him,  
Took the death from out his heart.

Still I read the ancient story,  
And my joy is ever new,  
How for us He left His glory,  
How he still is kind and true.

How the flock He gently leadeth  
Whom His Father gave Him here ;  
How His arms He widely spreadeth  
To His heart to draw us near.

Let me kneel, my Lord, before Thee,  
Let my heart in tears o'erflow,  
Melted by Thy love adore Thee,  
Blest in Thee 'mid joy or woe !

LUISE HENSEL.

## PASSION WEEK.

## I.

## IN THE GARDEN.



HENE'ER again thou sinkest,  
My heart, beneath thy load,  
Or from the battle shrinkest,  
And murmurest at thy God;  
Then I will lead thee hither,  
To watch thy Saviour's prayer,  
And learn from His endurance  
How thou shouldst also bear.

Oh come, wouldst thou be like Him,  
Thy Lord Divine, and mark  
What sharpest sorrows strike Him,  
What anguish deep and dark,—  
That earnest cry to spare Him,  
The trial scarce begun!  
Yet still he saith: "My Father,  
Thy will, not mine, be done!"

Oh wherefore doth His spirit  
Such bitter conflict know ?  
What sins, what crimes could merit  
Such deep and awful woe ?  
So pure are not the heavens,  
So clear no noonday sun,  
And yet He saith : " My Father,  
Thy will, not mine, be done !"

Oh mark that night of sorrow,  
That agony of prayer ;  
No friend can watch till morrow  
His grief to soothe and share ;  
Oh where shall He find comfort ?  
With God, with God alone ;  
And still He saith : " My Father,  
Thy will, not mine, be done !"

Hath life for Him no gladness,  
No joy the light of day ?  
Can He, then, feel no sadness,  
When heart and hope give way ?  
'That cup of mortal anguish  
One bitter cry hath won,  
'That it might pass : " Yet, Father,  
Thy will, not mine, be done !"

And who the cup prepared Him,  
And who the poison gave ?  
'Twas one He loved ensnared Him,  
'Twas they He came to save.

Oh sharpest pain, to suffer  
Betray'd and mock'd—alone;  
Yet still he saith: "My Father,  
Thy will, not mine, be done!"


But what is joy or living,  
What treachery or death,  
When all His work, His striving,  
Seem hanging on His breath?  
Oh can it stand without Him,  
That work but just begun?  
Yet still He saith: "My Father,  
Thy will, not mine, be done!"

He speaks; no more He shrinketh,  
Himself He offers up,  
He sees it all, yet drinketh  
For us that bitter cup,  
He goes to meet the traitor,  
The cross He will not shun,—  
He saith: "I come, My Father,  
Thy will, not mine, be done!"

My Saviour, I will never  
Forget Thy word of grace,  
But still repeat it ever,  
Through good and evil days;  
And looking up to Heaven,  
Till all my race is run,  
I'll humbly say: "My Father,  
Thy will, not mine, be done!"

## II.

## AT THE FOOT OF THE CROSS.


 H, world! behold upon the tree  
 Thy Life is hanging now for thee,  
 Thy Saviour yields His dying breath;  
 The mighty Prince of glory now  
 For thee doth unresisting bow  
 To cruel stripes, to scorn and death.

Draw near, O world, and mark Him well;  
 Behold the drops of blood that tell  
 How sore His conflict with the foe:  
 And hark! how from that noble heart,  
 Sigh after sigh doth slowly start  
 From depths of yet unfathom'd woe.

Alas! my Saviour, who could dare  
 Bid Thee such bitter anguish bear,  
 What evil heart entreat Thee thus?  
 For Thou art good, hast wronged none,  
 As we and ours too oft have done,  
 'Thou hast not sinn'd, dear Lord, like us

I and my fins, that number more  
Than yonder sands upon the shore,  
Have brought to pass this agony.  
'Tis I have caused the floods of woe  
That now Thy dying soul o'erflow,  
And those sad hearts that watch by Thee.

'Tis I to whom these pains belong,  
'Tis I should suffer for my wrong,  
Bound hand and foot in heavy chains ;  
Thy scourge, Thy fetters, whatsoe'er  
Thou bearest, 'tis my soul should bear,  
For she hath well deserved such pains.

Yet Thou dost even for my sake  
On Thee, in love, the burdens take  
That weigh'd my spirit to the ground :  
Yes, Thou art made a curse for me,  
That I might yet be blest through Thee ;  
My healing in Thy wounds is found.

To save me from the monster's power,  
The Death that all things would devour,  
Thyself into his jaws dost leap ;  
My death Thou takest thus away,  
And buriest in Thy grave for aye,  
O love most strangely true and deep !

From henceforth there is nought of mine  
But I would seek to make it Thine,  
Since all myself to Thee I owe.

Whate'er my utmost powers can do,  
To Thee to render service true,  
Here at Thy feet I lay it low.

Ah! little have I, Lord, to give,  
So poor, so base the life I live,  
But yet, till soul and body part,  
This one thing I will do for Thee—  
The woe, the death endured for me,  
I'll cherish in my inmost heart.

Thy cross shall be before my sight,  
My hope, my joy, by day and night,  
Whate'er I do, where'er I rove;  
And, gazing, I will gather thence  
The form of spotless innocence,  
The seal of faultless truth and love.

And from Thy sorrows will I learn  
How fiercely doth God's anger burn,  
How terribly His thunders roll,  
How sorely this our loving God  
Can smite with His avenging rod,  
How deep His floods o'erwhelm the soul.

And I will study to adorn  
My heart with meekness under scorn,  
With gentle patience in distress,  
With faithful love, that yearning cleaves  
To those o'er whom to death it grieves,  
Whose sins its very soul oppresses.

When evil tongues with stinging blame  
Would cast dishonour on my name,  
    I'll curb the passions that upstart ;  
And take injustice patiently,  
And pardon, as 'Thou pardon'st me,  
    With an ungrudging generous heart.

And I will nail me to Thy cross,  
And learn to count all things but dross  
    Wherein the flesh doth pleasure take ;  
Whate'er is hateful in Thine eyes,  
With all the strength that in me lies,  
    Will I cast from me and forsake.

Thy heavy groans, Thy bitter sighs,  
The tears that from Thy dying eyes  
    Were shed when Thou wast sore oppress'd,  
Shall be with me, when at the last  
Myself on Thee I wholly cast,  
    And enter with Thee into rest.

PAUL GERHARDT. 1659.

## III.

## OUR HERITAGE.



H, Jesus, the merit  
Of all that Thou hast borne  
Maketh me inherit  
The crown that hath no thorn!


Ah then, teach me duly  
To worship at Thy cross,  
Owning inly, truly,  
The Love that bore our loss.

There to sin, oh let me  
From henceforth daily die;  
Nor in death forget me,  
Then grant me life on high.

ANON.

## IV.

## OUR REQUITAL.

IM on yonder crofs I love,  
Nought on earth I elfe count dear !  
May He mine for ever prove,  
Who is now fo inly near !

Here I ftand : whate'er may come,  
Days of funfhine or of gloom,  
From this word I will not move ;  
Him upon the crofs I love !

'Tis not hidden from my heart,  
What true love muft often bring ;  
Want and grief have foreft fmart,  
Care and fcorn can fharpely ftting ;  
Nay, but if Thy will were fuch,  
Bittereft death were not too much !  
Dark though here my courfe may prove :  
Him upon the crofs I love !

Rather sorrows fuch as thefe,  
Rather love's acuteft pain,  
Than without Him days of eafe,  
Riches falfe and honours vain.

Count me strange, when I am true,  
What He hates I will not do ;  
Sneers no more my heart can move ;  
Him upon the cross I love !


Know ye whence my strength is drawn,  
Fearless thus the fight to wage ?  
Why my heart can laugh to scorn  
Fleshly weakness, Satan's rage ?  
'Tis, I know the love of Christ,  
Mighty is that love unpriced !  
What can grieve me, what can move ?  
Him upon the cross I love !

Once the eyes that now are dim,  
Shall discern the changeless love  
That hath led us home to Him,  
That hath crown'd us far above :  
Would to God that all below  
What that love is now might know,  
And their hearts this word approve :  
Him upon the cross I love !

GRETING. Born 1676.

## V.

## AT THE SEPULCHRE

HOU, fore-oppres'd,  
The Sabbath rest  
In yon still grave art keeping!  
All Thy labour now is done,  
Past is all Thy weeping!

The strife is o'er,  
Nought hurts Thee more,  
The heart at last hath slumber'd,  
That in conflict fore for us  
Bore our sins unnumber'd.

Thou awful tomb,  
Once fill'd with gloom!  
How blessed and how holy  
Art thou now, since in the grave  
Slept the Saviour lowly!

How calm and blest  
The dead now rest  
Who in the Lord departed!  
All their works do follow them,  
Yea, they sleep glad-hearted.

O lead us Thou,  
To rest e'en now,  
With all who sorely anguish'd  
'Neath the burden of their sins,  
Long in woe have languish'd

O Blessed Rock !  
Soon grant Thy flock  
To see Thy Sabbath morning !  
Strife and pain will all be past  
When that day is dawning.

VIKTOR STRAUSS.

## VI.

## OUR REST.

**L**ORD Jesus, who our souls to save,  
Didst rest and slumber in the grave,  
Now grant us all in Thee to rest,  
And here to live as seems Thee best.

Give us the strength, the dauntless faith,  
That Thou hast purchased with Thy death,  
And lead us to that glorious place,  
Where we shall see the Father's face.

O Lamb of God! who once wast slain,  
We thank Thee for that bitter pain!  
Let us partake Thy death that we  
May enter into life with Thee!

GEORGE WERNER. 1638.

## E A S T E R .

## I.

## THE SONG OF TRIUMPH.



CHRIST the Lord is risen again !  
Christ hath broken every chain !  
Hark, the angels shout for joy,  
Singing evermore on high,  
Hallelujah.

He who gave for us His life,  
Who for us endured the strife,  
Is our Paschal Lamb to-day !  
We too sing for joy, and say :  
Hallelujah.

He who bore all pain and loss  
Comfortless upon the cross,  
Lives in glory now on high,  
Pleads for us and hears our cry :  
Hallelujah.

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He whose path no records tell,  
Who descended into hell,  
Who the strong man arm'd hath bound,  
Now in the highest heaven is crown'd :  
Hallelujah.

He who slumber'd in the grave,  
Is exalted now to save ;  
Now through Christendom it rings  
That the Lamb is King of kings !  
Hallelujah.


Now He bids us tell abroad,  
How the lost may be restored,  
How the penitent forgiven,  
How we too may enter heaven.  
Hallelujah.

Thou our Paschal Lamb indeed,  
Christ, to-day Thy people feed ;  
Take our sins and guilt away,  
Let us sing by night and day,  
Hallelujah.

BOHEMIAN BRETHREN.

## II.

## CHRIST OUR CHAMPION.

RE yet the dawn hath fill'd the skies  
Behold my Saviour Christ arise,  
He chafeth from us sin and night,  
And brings us joy and life and light.  
Hallelujah.

O stronger Thou than Death and Hell,  
Where is the foe Thou canst not quell  
What heavy stone Thou canst not roll  
From off the prison'd anguish'd soul?  
Hallelujah.

If Jesus lives, can I be sad?  
I know He loves me, and am glad;  
Though all the world were dead to me,  
Enough, O Christ, if I have Thee!  
Hallelujah.

He feeds me, comforts and defends,  
And when I die His angel sends  
To bear me whither He is gone,  
For of His own He loseth none.  
Hallelujah.

---

No more to fear or grief I bow,  
God and the angels love me now;  
The joys prepared for me to-day  
Drive fear and mourning far away;  
Hallelujah.

Strong Champion! For this comfort see  
The whole world brings her thanks to Thee;  
And once we too shall raise above  
More sweet and loud the song we love;  
Hallelujah.

J. HEERMANN. 1630.

## III.

THE WHOLE WORLD RESTORED IN  
CHRIST.

SAY to all men, far and near,  
That He is risen again;  
That He is with us now and here,  
And ever shall remain.

And what I say, let each this morn  
Go tell it to his friend,  
That soon in every place shall dawn  
His kingdom without end.

Now first to souls who thus awake  
Seems earth a fatherland,  
A new and endless life they take  
With rapture from His hand.

The fears of death and of the grave  
Are whelm'd beneath the sea,  
And every heart now light and brave  
May face the things to be.

---

The way of darkneſs that He trod  
To Heaven at laſt ſhall come,  
And he who hearkens to His word  
Shall reach His Father's home.

Now let the mourner grieve no more,  
Though his beloved ſleep,  
A happier meeting ſhall reſtore  
Their light to eyes that weep.

Now every heart each noble deed  
With new reſolve may dare,  
A glorious harveſt ſhall the ſeed  
In happier regions bear.

He lives, His preſence hath not ceaſed,  
Though foes and fears be riſe;  
And thus we hail in Eaſter's feaſt  
A world renewed to life!

NOVALIS. 1772-1801.

## IV.

THE RESURRECTION FROM THE DEATH  
OF SIN.

RISEN Lord! O conquering King!  
 O Life of all that live!  
 To-day that peace of Easter bring  
 Which only Thou canst give!  
 Once death, our foe,  
 Had laid Thee low,  
 Now hast Thou rent his bonds in twain,  
 Now art Thou risen who once wast slain!

The power of Thy great majesty  
 Bursts rocks and tombs away,  
 Thy victory raises us with Thee  
 Into the glorious day;  
 Now Satan's might  
 And Death's dark night  
 Have lost their power this blessed morn,  
 And we to higher life are born.

Oh that our hearts might inly know  
 Thy victory over death,  
 And gazing on 'Thy conflict glow  
 With eager dauntless faith;

Thy quenchless light,  
 Thy glorious might  
 Still comfortless and lonely leave  
 The soul that cannot yet believe.

Then break through our hard hearts Thy way,  
 O Jesus, conquering King!  
 Kindle the lamp of faith to-day,  
 Teach our faint hearts to sing  
 For joy at length,  
 That in Thy strength  
 We too may rise whom sin had slain,  
 And Thine eternal rest attain.

And when our tears for sin o'erflow,  
 Do Thou in love draw near,  
 The precious gift of peace bestow,  
 Shine on us bright and clear;  
 That so may we,  
 O Christ, from Thee  
 Drink in the life that cannot die,  
 And keep true Easter feasts on high.

Yes, let us truly know within  
 Thy rising from the dead;  
 And quit the grave of death and sin,  
 And keep that gift, our Head,  
 That Thou didst leave  
 For all who cleave  
 To Thee through all this earthly strife,  
 So shall we enter into life.

## V.

## THE WALK TO EMMAUS.

**S**AD with longing, sick with fears,  
Two toward Emmaus slowly go,  
And their eyes are dim with tears,  
And their hearts oppress'd with wo,  
Of their ruin'd hopes they talk;  
Yet while thus they sadly walk,  
Jesus is not far away,  
And their fears shall soon allay.

Ah! and still how many a heart  
Onward toils in silent grief,  
Mourning o'er its woes apart,  
Hopeless now of all relief;  
Oft it seeks to walk alone,  
But to weep its fill unknown;  
Yet my Jesus cometh now,  
Asking, wherefore weepest thou?

Many a time I've felt indeed  
That He leaves me ne'er alone,  
In the hour of utmost need  
Then Himself He maketh known;

When in sorrow I consume  
As though He no more could come,  
Lo! I find Him more than near,  
Quickly with His help He's here.

Truest Friend, who canst not fail me,  
Evermore abide with me;  
When the world would most assail me,  
Then Thy presence let me see;  
When its heaviest thunders roll,  
Shelter Thou my trembling soul,  
Come and in my spirit rest,  
I will do what seems Thee best.

When I dread some coming ill,  
Lord, then bid me think of this,  
That my Saviour loves me still,  
And that I am surely His:  
More of Thy word let me learn,  
Till my heart within me burn,  
Fill'd with love, and in Thy Light  
Learn to know her Lord aright.

Comfort those who, fill'd with gloom,  
Lonely on their journey go,  
Or within their silent room  
Cry to Thee from depths of wo;  
When they leave the world apart,  
There to weep out all their heart,  
Let them hear Thy whisper mild;  
Wherefore dost thou mourn, my child?


When life's day hath fled by,  
When the night of death is near,  
When in vain the darken'd eye  
Seeks some stay, some helper here :  
Then Thy followers' prayer fulfil,  
Then abide Thou with us still,  
Till Thou give us peace and rest  
Stay, O stay, Thou noble guest !

L. E. S. MULLER.

## ASCENSION.

## I.

## THE WAY OPENED.

 O-DAY our Lord went up on high,  
And so our songs we raise;  
To Him with strong desire we cry  
To keep us in His grace,  
For we poor finners here beneath  
Are dwelling still 'mid woe and death,  
All hope in Him we place.  
Hallelujah.

Thank God that now the way is made!  
The cherub-guarded door,  
Through Him on whom our help was laid  
Stands open evermore;  
Who knoweth this is glad at heart,  
And swift prepares him to depart  
Where Christ is gone before.  
Hallelujah.

Our heavenward course begins when we  
Have found our Father, God,  
And join us to His sons, and flee  
The paths that once we trod ;  
For he looks down, and they look up,  
They feel His love, they live in hope,  
Until they meet their Lord.

Hallelujah.

Then all the depths of joy that lie  
In this day we shall know,  
When we are made like Him on high,  
Whom we confess below,  
When bath'd in life's eternal flood  
We dwell with Him, the highest Good :  
God grant us this to know !

Hallelujah.

J. ZWICK. 1538.

## II.

CHRIST'S ASCENSION THE GROUND  
OF OURS.

**S**INCE Christ is gone to heaven, His home  
I too must one day share;  
And in this hope I overcome  
All anguish, all despair;  
For where the Head is, well we know  
The members he hath left below  
In time He gathers there.


Since Christ hath reach'd His glorious throne  
And mighty gifts are His,  
My heart can rest in heaven alone,  
On earth my Lord I miss,  
I long to be with Him on high,  
And heart and thoughts would hourly fly  
Where now my treasure is.

From Thy ascension let such grace,  
My Lord, be found in me,  
That steadfast faith may guide my ways  
Unfaltering up to Thee,  
And at Thy voice I may depart  
With joy to dwell where Thou, Lord, art;  
Oh grant this prayer to me!

JOSUA WEGELIN. 1636.

## III.

## THE KINGDOM OF CHRIST.

ONQUERING Prince and Lord of glory!  
Majesty enthroned in light!  
All the heavens are bow'd before Thee,  
Far beyond them spreads Thy might;  
Shall I fall not at Thy feet,  
And my heart with rapture beat,  
Now Thy glory is display'd,  
Thine ere yet the worlds were made?

Far and wide, Thou heavenly Sun,  
Now Thy brightness streams abroad,  
And Heaven's host anew hath won  
Light and gladness from its Lord;  
Hark, how yon unnumber'd throng  
Welcome Thee with joyous song:  
See, Thy children weak and few  
Here would cry Hosanna too.

Of Thy cup shall I not drink,  
Now Thy glories o'er me shine?  
Shall my courage ever sink,  
Now I know all power is Thine?

I will trust Thee, O my King,  
And will fear no earthly thing,  
Henceforth will I bow the knee  
To no ruler, save to Thee.


Power and Spirit now o'erflow,  
On me also be they pour'd,  
Till Thy last and mightiest foe  
Hath been made Thy footstool, Lord ;  
Yea, let earth's remotest end  
To Thy righteous sceptre bend,  
Make Thy way before Thee plain,  
O'er all hearts and spirits reign.

Lo ! Thy presence filleth now  
All Thy Church in every place,  
To my heart, oh enter Thou,  
See, it thirsteth for Thy grace ;  
Come, Thou King of glory, come,  
Deign to make my heart Thy home,  
There abide and rule alone,  
As upon Thy heavenly throne !

Parting, dost Thou bring Thy life,  
God and heaven, most inly near :  
Let me rise o'er earthly strife,  
As though still I saw Thee here,  
And my heart transplanted hence,  
Strange to earth and time and sense,  
Dwell with Thee in heaven e'en now,  
Where our only joy art Thou !

## IV.

## THE THRONE OF GRACE.

 Y Jesus, if the seraphim,  
The burning host that near Thee stand,  
Before Thy Majesty are dim,  
And veil their face at Thy command;  
How shall these mortal eyes of mine,  
Now dark with evil's hateful night,  
Endure to gaze upon the light  
That aye surrounds that throne of Thine?

Yet grant the eye of faith, O Lord,  
To pierce within the Holy Place,  
For I am saved and Thou adored,  
If I am quicken'd by Thy grace.  
Behold, O King, before Thy throne  
My soul in lowly love doth bend,  
Oh show Thyself her gracious Friend,  
And say, "I choose thee for mine own."

Have mercy, Lord of love, for long  
My spirit for Thy mercy sighs,  
My inmost soul hath found a tongue,  
"Be merciful, O God," she cries!

I know Thou wilt not bid me go,  
Thou canst not be ungracious, Lord,  
To one for whom Thy blood was pour'd,  
Whose guilt was cancell'd by Thy woe.

Here in Thy gracious hands I fall,  
To Thee I cling with faith's embrace,  
O righteous Sovereign, hear my call,  
And turn, O turn, to me in grace!  
For through Thy sorrows I am just,  
And guilt no more in me is found,  
Thus reconciled, my soul is bound  
To Thee in endless love and trust.

And let Thy wisdom be my guide,  
Nor take Thy light from me away,  
Thy grace be ever at my side,  
That from the path I may not stray  
That Thou dost love, but evermore  
In steadfast faith my course fulfil,  
And keep Thy word, and do Thy will,  
Thy love within, Thy heaven before!

Reach down and arm me with Thy hand,  
And strengthen me with inner might,  
That I through faith may strive and stand  
Though craft and force against me fight:  
So shall the kingdom of Thy love  
Be through me and within me spread,  
That honours Thee, our glorious Head,  
And crowneth us in realms above.

Yes, yes, to Thee my soul would cleave,  
O choose it, Saviour, for Thy throne!  
Couldst Thou in love to me once leave  
The glory that was all Thine own,  
So honour Thou my life and heart  
That Thou mayst find a heaven in me,  
And when this house decay'd shall be,  
Then grant the heaven where now Thou art.


To Thee I rise in faith on high,  
Oh bend Thou down in love to me!  
Let nothing rob me of this joy,  
That all my soul is fill'd with Thee;  
As long as I have life and breath,  
Thee will I honour, fear, and love,  
And when this heart hath ceased to move,  
Yet Love shall live and conquer death.

W. C. DESSLER. 1692.

## WHITSUNTIDE.

## I.

## THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

 HOLY Spirit, once again  
Come Thou true Eternal God!  
Nor Thy power descend in vain,  
Make us ever Thine abode;  
So shall Spirit, joy, and light  
Dwell in us where all was night.

Pour into our heart and mind  
Wisdom, counsel, truth, and love;  
That we be to nought inclined,  
Save what Thou mayst well approve;  
Let Thy knowledge spread and grow,  
Working error's overthrow.

Guide us, Lord, from day to day,  
Keep us in the paths of grace,  
Clear all hindrances away  
That might foil us in the race;  
When we stumble hear our call,  
Work repentance for our fall.

Witness in our hearts that God  
Counts us children through His Son,  
That our Father's gentle rod  
Smites us for our good alone,  
So when tried, perplex'd, distressed  
In His love we still may rest.

Quicken us to seek His face  
Freely, with a trusting heart,  
In our prayers O breathe Thy grace,  
Go with us when we depart,  
So shall our request be heard,  
And our faith to joy be stirr'd.

And whene'er a yearning strong  
Presses out the bitter cry,  
Ah my God, how long, how long?  
Then O let me find Thee nigh,  
And Thy words of healing balm  
Bring me courage, patience, calm.

Spirit Thou of strength and power  
Thou new Spirit God hath given,  
Aid us in temptation's hour,  
Train and perfect us for heaven,  
Arm us in the battle-field  
Leave us never there to yield.

Lord, preserve us in the faith,  
Suffer nought to drive us thence,  
Neither Satan, scorn, nor death;  
Be our God and our defence,

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Though the flesh resist Thy will,  
Let Thy word be stronger still.

And when we at last must die,  
Oh assure the sinking heart  
Of the glorious realm on high  
Where Thou healest every smart,  
Of the joys unspeakable  
Where our God would have us dwell.

ANON.

## II.

THE SPIRIT OF WISDOM, LOVE, AND  
JOY.

SWEETEST Joy the soul can know,  
Fairest Light was ever shed,  
Who alike in joy or woe,  
Leavest none unvisited ;  
Spirit of the Highest God,  
Lord, from whom is life bestow'd,  
Who upholdest everything,  
Hear me, hear me, while I sing !

For the noblest gift Thou art  
That a soul e'er sought or won,  
Have I wish'd Thee to my heart,  
Then my wishing all is done ;  
Ah then yield Thee, nor refuse  
Here to dwell, for Thou didst choose  
This my heart, from e'en its birth,  
For Thy temple here on earth.

Thou art shed like gentlest showers  
From the Father and the Son,  
Bringest to this earth of ours  
Purest blessing from their throne ;

---

Suffer then, O noble Guest,  
That rich gift by Thee possessest,  
That Thou givest at Thy will  
All my soul and flesh to fill.

Thou art wise, before Thee stand  
Hidden things unveil'd to Thee,  
Countest up the grains of sand,  
Fathomest the deepest sea,  
And Thou knowest well how blind,  
Dark and crooked is my mind ;  
Give me wisdom, in Thy light  
Let me please my God aright.

Thou art holy, entrest in  
Where pure hearts Thy coming wait,  
But Thou fleest shame and sin,  
Craft and falsehood Thou dost hate ;  
Wash me then, O Well of grace,  
Every stain and spot efface,  
Let me flee what Thou dost flee,  
Grant me what Thou lov'st to see.

Thou art loving, hatest strife,  
As a lamb of patient mood,  
Calm through all our restless life,  
Even to sinners kind and good ;  
Grant me, too, this noble mind,  
To be calm and true and kind,  
Loving every friend or foe,  
Grieving none whom Thou dost know.


Well contented is my heart,  
If but Thou reject me not ;  
If but Thou wilt ne'er depart,  
I am blest whate'er my lot ;  
Thine for ever make me now,  
And to Thee, my Lord, I vow  
Here and yonder to employ  
Every power for Thee with joy.

Be my help when danger's nigh,  
When I sink hold Thou me up,  
Be my life when I must die,  
In the grave be Thou my hope ;  
Bring me when I rise again  
To the land that knows no pain,  
Where Thy followers from Thy stream  
Drink for ever joys supreme.

PAUL GERHARDT. 1653.

## III.

## THE UNITY OF THE SPIRIT.

 HE Church of Christ that He hath hallow'd here  
To be His house, is scatter'd far and near,

In North and South and East and West abroad,  
And yet in earth and heaven, through Christ her Lord,  
The Church is one.

One member knoweth not another here,  
And yet their fellowship is true and near,  
One is their Saviour, and their Father one,  
One Spirit rules them, and among them none  
Lives to himself.

They live to Him who bought them with His blood,  
Baptized them with His Spirit pure and good,  
And in true faith and ever-burning love  
Their hearts and hope ascend to seek above  
The eternal Good.

O Spirit of the Lord, all life is Thine,  
Now fill Thy Church with life and power divine,  
That many children may be born to Thee,  
And spread Thy knowledge like the boundless sea,  
To Christ's great praise.

A. G. SPANGENBERG. 1747.

## IV.

## THE STRENGTH OF THE CHURCH.



ARK, the Church proclaims her honour  
And her strength is only this :  
God hath laid His choice upon her,  
And the work she doth is His.

He His Church hath firmly founded,  
He will guard what He began ;  
We, by sin and foes surrounded,  
Build her bulwarks as we can.

Frail and fleeting are our powers,  
Short our days, our foresight dim,  
And we own the choice not ours,  
We were chosen first by Him.


Onward then ! for nought despairing,  
Calm we follow at His word,  
Thus through joy and sorrow bearing  
Faithful witness to our Lord.

Though we here must strive with weakness,  
Though in tears we often bend,  
What His might began in meekness  
Shall achieve a glorious end.

S. PREISWERK.

## V.

## THE DIFFUSION OF THE GOSPEL.

 SPREAD, oh spread, thou mighty Word,  
Spread the kingdom of the Lord,  
Wherefoe'er His breath has given  
Life to beings meant for heaven.

Tell them how the Father's will  
Made the world, and keeps it still,  
How He sent His Son to save  
All who help and comfort crave.

Tell of our Redeemer's love,  
Who for ever doth remove  
By His holy sacrifice,  
All the guilt that on us lies.

Tell them of the Spirit given  
Now, to guide us up to heaven,  
Strong and holy, just and true,  
Working both to will and do.

Word of Life! most pure and strong,  
Lo! for Thee the nations long;

Spread, till from its dreary night  
All the world awakes to light.

Up, the ripening fields ye see,  
Mighty shall the harvest be,  
But the reapers still are few,  
Great the work they have to do.


Lord of harvest, let there be  
Joy and strength to work for Thee,  
Let the nations far and near  
See Thy Light, and learn Thy fear.

BAHNMAIER.

# TRINITY.

## I.

### A MORNING HYMN.

 HEE Fount of blessing we adore!  
Lo! we unlock our lips before  
Thy Godhead's deep of holiness,  
Oh deign to hear us now and blefs.

The Lord, the Maker, with us dwell,  
In foul and body shield us well,  
And guard us with His sleepless might  
From every ill by day and night.

The Lord, the Saviour, Light Divine,  
Now caufe His face on us to shine,  
That seeing Him, with perfect faith  
We trust His love for life and death.


The Lord, the Comforter, be near,  
Imprint His image deeply here,  
From bonds of fin and dread release,  
And give us His unchanging peace.

O Triune God ! Thou vast abyfs !  
Thou ever-flowing Fount of blifs,  
Flow through us, heart and foul and will  
With endless praise and blessing fill !

TERSTEEGEN. 1731.

## II.

## THE FATHER, REDEEMER, GUIDE.

 Father-eye, that hath so truly watch'd,  
O Father-hand, that hath so gently led,  
O Father-heart, that by my prayer is  
touch'd,

That loved me first when I was cold and dead :  
Still do Thou lead me on with faithful care

The narrow path to heaven where I would go,  
And train me for the life that waits me there,  
Alike through love and loss, through weal and wo.


O my Redeemer, who for me wast slain,  
Who bringest me forgiveness and release,  
Whose death has ransom'd me to God again,  
That now my heart can rest in perfect peace ;  
Still more and more do Thou my soul redeem,  
From every bondage set me wholly free,  
Though Evil oft the mightiest power may seem,  
Still make me more than conqueror, Lord, in  
Thee.

O Holy Spirit, who with gentlest breath  
Dost teach to pray, dost comfort or reprove,  
Who givest us all joy and hope and faith,  
Through whom we live at peace with God in  
    love;  
Still do Thou shed Thine influences abroad,  
Let me the Father's image ever wear,  
Make me a holy temple of my God,  
Where dwells for ever calm adoring prayer!

SPITTA.

III.

AN EVENING HYMN.

 RUE mirror of the Godhead ! Perfect  
 Light !  
 Thou Three in One, whose never slum-  
 bering might  
 Enfolds the world within its sheltering wings,  
 And holds in being all created things !

We praise Thee with the earliest morning ray,  
 We praise Thee with the parting beam of day ;  
 All things that live and move, by sea and land,  
 For ever ready at Thy service stand.

Exhaustless Treasure ! Being limitless !  
 What gaze hath ever pierced Thy deep abyss ?  
 Deep Fount of Life ! Light inaccessible !  
 How great Thy power, O God, what tongue can  
 tell ?

Thy Christendom is singing night and day,  
 Glory to Him, the mighty God, for aye,  
 By Whom, through Whom, in Whom all beings  
 are !  
 Grant us to echo on this song afar !

Thy name is great, Thy kingdom in us dwell,  
Thy will constrain and feed and guide us well;  
Spare us, redeem us in the evil hour,  
For Thine the glory, Thine the rule, the power.

J. FRANCK. 1653.

# Services.



## MORNING PRAYER.

### I.

#### FOR THE SABBATH MORNING.

**T**IGHT of light enlighten me  
 Now anew the day is dawning;  
 Sun of grace, the shadows flee,  
 Brighten Thou my Sabbath morning,  
 With Thy joyous sunshine blest  
 Happy is my day of rest!

Fount of all our joy and peace,  
 To Thy living waters lead me,  
 Thou from earth my soul release  
 And with grace and mercy feed me;  
 Bless Thy word that it may prove  
 Rich in fruits that Thou dost love.

Kindle Thou the sacrifice  
That upon my lips is lying ;  
Clear the shadows from mine eyes  
That, from every error flying,  
No strange fire within me glow  
That Thine altar doth not know.

Let me with my heart to-day,  
Holy, Holy, Holy, singing,  
Rapt awhile from earth away  
All my soul to Thee upspringing,  
Have a foretaste inly given  
How they worship Thee in Heaven.

Rest in me and I in Thee,  
Build a Paradise within me ;  
Oh reveal Thyself to me ;  
Blessed Love, who diedst to win me ;  
Fed from Thine exhaustless urn  
Pure and bright my lamp shall burn.

Hence all care, all vanity,  
For the day to God is holy ;  
Come Thou glorious Majesty  
Deign to fill this temple lowly,  
Nought to-day my soul shall move  
Simply resting in Thy love.

B. SCHMOLCK. 1731.

III.

BEFORE PUBLIC WORSHIP.



BLESSED Jesus, at Thy word  
 We are gather'd all to hear Thee;  
 Let our hearts and souls be stirr'd  
 Now to seek and love and fear Thee;  
 By Thy teachings sweet and holy  
 Drawn from earth to love Thee solely.


All our knowledge, sense, and sight  
 Lie in deepest darkness shrouded,  
 Till Thy Spirit breaks our night  
 With the beams of truth unclouded;  
 Thou alone to God canst win us,  
 Thou must work all good within us.

Glorious Lord, Thyself impart!  
 Light of light from God proceeding,  
 Open Thou our ears and heart,  
 Help us by Thy Spirit's pleading,  
 Hear the cry Thy people raises,  
 Hear, and bless our prayers and praises!

T. CLAUSNITZER. 1671.

## III.

## IN TIME OF WAR AND PERSECUTION

 NCE more the day-light shines abroad,  
O Brethren let us praise the Lord,  
Whose grace and mercy thus have kept  
The nightly watch while we have slept.

To Him let us together pray  
With one heart and one soul to-day,  
That He would keep us in His love,  
And all our guilt and sin remove.

Eternal God! Almighty Friend,  
Whose deep compassions have no end,  
Whose never-failing strength and might  
Have kept us safely through the night:

Now send us from Thy heavenly throne  
Thy grace and help through Christ Thy Son,  
That with Thy strength our hearts may glow,  
And fear nor man nor ghostly foe.

Ah Lord God! hear us we implore!  
Be Thou our Guardian evermore,

---

Our mighty Champion and our shield  
Who goeth with us to the field.

We offer up ourselves to Thee,  
That heart and word and deed may be  
In all things guided by Thy mind,  
And in Thine eyes acceptance find.


Thus, Lord, we bring through Christ Thy Son  
Our morning offering to Thy throne;  
Now be Thy precious gift outpoured,  
And help us for Thine honour, Lord!

BOHEMIAN BRETHREN.

## IV.

## IN TIME OF DISTRESS.

WRITTEN DURING THE THIRTY YEARS' WAR.

HEN anguish'd and perplex'd with many  
    a sigh and tear  
I lift mine eyes up to Thy hills, and  
    pour out all my woe,  
Thou bendeſt down Thine ear,  
And never from Thy face, my Lord, uncomforted  
    I go.

My help and my defence come, faithful God,  
    from Thee,  
By Whom the heavens were fix'd, and earth's foundations laid;  
    Man cannot succour me,  
Before Thy throne alone we find our refuge and our  
    aid.

Thou watchest that my foot should neither slip  
nor stray,  
Thou guidest me Thyself through all my dark and  
troubled course,  
Thou pointest me the way  
Amid the snares of sin and death, and this world's  
craft and force.

Guardian of Israel! Thou dost slumber not,  
nor sleep,  
Thine eye is open day and night, still watching over  
those  
Who true allegiance keep  
To Jesus' banner of the Cross, and bravely meet  
His foes.

And when Thou bidd'st me leave this world  
of strife and pain,  
Grant me in Thee a steadfast hope, and gentle quick  
release,  
Knowing we rise again  
To dwell where death and war are not, in endless  
joy and peace.

M. A. VON LOWENSTERN.

## V.

## THE CHRISTIAN'S MORNING SACRIFICE.



THOU Most Highest! Guardian of man-  
kind!

Supreme exhaustless good Thou art!  
To Thee I offer soul and heart:

Praise Him all creatures with your strength and mind,  
For He is kind!

Yes, Lord, 'tis of Thy power alone to-day  
That still I draw my living breath,  
Thy grace preserves me still from death,  
O Father-heart, reject me not, but stay  
With me to-day.

O Israel's God, I bring Thee now my will,  
That would be Thine whate'er it cost,  
Love Thy good gifts, yet love Thee most;  
This is my prayer while yet the morn is still,  
Take Thou my will.

O Fount of grace, in love be Thou my guide,  
Thine eye look down on me in power,  
Whate'er I do or am each hour  
Prepare me for the eternal life, abide  
Still at my side.

The soul and body Thou dost hold in life,  
Be ever ready in Thy fear  
To fight for truth and justice here,  
And trusting Thee to meet the final strife,  
For Thou art Life.

Bless all my works and ways, my light increase,  
Order my doings for the best,  
In all my toil be Thou my rest,  
Until at last I lay me down in peace  
That cannot cease.

JOACHIM NEANDER. 1679.

## VI.

## A MORNING SONG OF GLADNESS.



S a bird in meadows fair  
 Or in lonely forest sings  
 Till it fills the summer air  
 And the greenwood sweetly rings,  
 So my heart to Thee would raise,  
 O my God, its song of praise  
 That the gloom of night is o'er  
 And I see the sun once more.

If Thou, Sun of Love, arise,  
 All my heart with joy is stirr'd,  
 And to greet Thee upward flies  
 Gladsome as yon little bird.  
 Shine Thou in me clear and bright  
 Till I learn to praise Thee right ;  
 Guide me in the narrow way,  
 Let me ne'er in darkness stray.

Bless to-day whate'er I do,  
 Bless whate'er I have and love ;  
 From the paths of virtue true  
 Let me never never rove ;

---

By Thy Spirit strengthen me  
In the faith that leads to Thee,  
Then an heir of life on high  
Fearless I may live and die.

ANON. About 1580.

## VII.

## A MORNING PRAYER.



HE golden morn flames up the Eastern sky,  
 And what dark night had hid from every  
 eye  
 All-piercing day-light summons clear to  
 view :

And all the forests, vale or plain or hill,  
 That slept in mist enshrouded, dark and still,  
 In gladsome light are glittering now anew.

Shine in my heart, and bring me joy and light,  
 Sun of my darken'd soul, dispel its night,  
 And shed in it the truthful day abroad ;  
 And all the many gloomy folds lay bare  
 Within this heart, that fain would learn to wear  
 The pure and glorious likeness of its Lord.

Glad with Thy light, and glowing with Thy love,  
 So let me ever speak and think and move  
 As fits a soul new-touch'd with life from Heaven.  
 That seeks but so to order all her course  
 As most to show the glory of that Source  
 By whom alone her strength, her life are given.

I ask not, take away this weight of care ;  
No, for that love I pray that all can bear,  
    And for the faith that whatsoe'er befall  
Must needs be good, and for my profit prove,  
Since from my Father's heart most rich in love,  
    And from His bounteous hands it cometh all.

I ask not that my course be calm and still ;  
No, here too, Lord, be done Thy holy will ;  
    I ask but for a quiet childlike heart ;  
Though thronging cares and restless toil be mine,  
Yet may my heart remain for ever Thine,  
    Draw it from earth, and fix it where Thou art.

I ask Thee not to finish soon the strife,  
The toil, the trouble of this earthly life ;  
    No, be my peace amid its grief and pain ;  
I pray not, grant me now Thy realm on high ;  
No, ere I die let me to evil die,  
    And through Thy cross my sins be wholly slain.


True Morning Sun of all my life, I pray  
That not in vain Thou shine on me to-day,  
    Be Thou my light when all around is gloom ;  
Thy brightness, hope, and courage on me shed,  
'That I may joy to see when life is fled  
    The setting sun that brings the pilgrim home.

SPITTA.

## EVENING PRAYER.

## I.

## TRUST IN GOD.

 HE night is come, wherein at last we rest,  
God order this and all things for the best :  
Beneath His blessing fearless we may lie  
Since He is nigh.

Drive evil thoughts and spirits far away,  
O Master, watch o'er us till dawning day,  
Body and soul alike from harm defend,  
Thine angel send.

Let holy prayers and thoughts our latest be,  
Let us awake with joy, still close to Thee,  
In all serve Thee, in every deed and thought  
Thy praise be sought.

Give to the sick as Thy beloved sleep,  
And help the captive, comfort those who weep,  
Care for the widows' and the orphans' woe,  
Keep far our foe.

---

For we have none on whom for help to call,  
Save Thee, O God in heaven, who car'st for all,  
And wilt forsake them never day or night,  
Who love Thee right.

Father, Thy Name be praised, Thy Kingdom come,  
Thy will be wrought as in our heavenly home,  
Keep us in life, forgive our sins, deliver  
Us now and ever ! Amen.

BOHEMIAN BRETHREN.

## II.

## AN EVENING THANKSGIVING.

**S**INK not yet, my soul, to slumber,  
Wake, my heart, go forth and tell  
All the mercies without number  
That this by-gone day befell ;  
Tell how God hath kept afar  
All things that against me war,  
Hath upheld me and defended,  
And His grace my soul befriended.

Father, merciful and holy,  
Thee to-night I praise and bless,  
Who to labour true and lowly  
Grantest ever meet success ;  
Many a sin and many a woe,  
Many a fierce and subtle foe  
Hast 'Thou check'd that once alarm'd me,  
So that nought to-day has harm'd me.

Yes, our wisdom vainly ponders,  
Fathoms not 'Thy loving thought ;  
Never tongue can tell the wonders  
That each day for us are wrought ;

So Thou'lt guided me to-day  
That no ill hath cross'd my way,  
There is neither bound nor measure  
In Thy love's o'erflowing treasure.

Now the light, that all things gladdens,  
And the pomp of day is gone,  
And my heart is tired and saddens  
As the gloomy night comes on ;  
Ah then, with Thy changeless light  
Warm and cheer my heart to-night,  
As the shadows round me gather  
Keep me close to Thee, my Father.

Of Thy grace I pray Thee pardon  
All my sins, and heal their smart ;  
Sore and heavy is their burden,  
Sharp their sting within my heart ;  
And my foe lays many a snare  
But to tempt me to despair,  
Only Thou, dear Lord, canst save me,  
Let him not prevail to have me.

Have I e'er from Thee departed,  
Now I seek Thy face again,  
And Thy Son, the loving-hearted,  
Made our peace through bitter pain.  
Yes, far greater than our sin,  
Though it still be strong within,  
Is the Love that fails us never,  
Mercy that endures for ever.

Brightness of the eternal city !  
Light of every faithful soul !  
Safe beneath Thy sheltering pity  
Let the tempests past me roll ;  
Now it darkens far and near,  
Still, my God, still be Thou here ;  
Thou canst comfort, and Thou only,  
When the night is long and lonely.

E'en the twilight now hath vanish'd,  
Send Thy blessing on my sleep,  
Every sin and terror banish'd,  
Let my rest be calm and deep.  
Soul and body, mind and health,  
Wife and children, house and wealth,  
Friend and foe, the sick, the stranger,  
Keep Thou safe from harm and danger.

Keep me safe till morn is breaking,  
Nightly terrors drive Thou hence,  
Let not sickness keep me waking ;  
Sudden death and pestilence,  
Fire and water, noise of war,  
Keep Thou from my house afar ;  
Let me die not unrepented,  
That my soul be not tormented.

O Thou mighty God, now hearken  
To the prayer Thy child hath made ;  
Jesus, while the night-hours darken  
Be Thou still my hope, my aid ;

---

Holy Ghost, on Thee I call,  
Friend and Comforter of all,  
Hear my earnest prayer, oh hear me!  
Lord, Thou hearest, Thou art near me.

J. RIST. 1642.

## III.

## IN SICKNESS.

**W**ORD, a whole long day of pain  
Now at last is o'er !  
Ah how much we can sustain  
I have felt once more ;  
Felt how frail are all our powers,  
And how weak our trust ;  
If Thou help not, these dark hours  
Crush us to the dust.

Could I face the coming night  
If Thou wert not near ?  
Nay, without Thy love and might  
I must sink with fear :  
Round me falls the evening gloom,  
Sights and sounds all cease,  
But within this narrow room  
Night will bring no peace.

Other weary eyes may close,  
All things seek their sleep,  
Hither comes no soft repose,  
I must wake and weep.

Come then, Jesus, o'er me bend,  
Give me strength to cope  
With my pains, and gently fend  
Thoughts of peace and hope.

Draw my weary heart away  
From this gloom and strife,  
And these fever pains allay  
With the dew of life;  
Thou canst calm the troubled mind,  
Thou its dread canst still,  
Teach me to be all resign'd  
To my Father's will.


Then if I must wake and weep  
All the long night through,  
Thou the watch with me wilt keep,  
Friend and Guardian true;  
In the darkness Thou wilt speak  
Lovingly with me,  
Though my heart may vainly seek  
Words to breathe to Thee.

Wherefoe'er my couch is made  
In Thy hands I lie,  
And to Thee alone for aid  
Turns my restless eye,  
Let my prayer grow weary never,  
Strengthen Thou the oppress'd;  
In Thy shadow, Lord, for ever  
Let me gently rest.

HEINRICH PUCHTA.

## IV.

## FOR A WAKEFUL NIGHT.

OW darknes over all is spread,  
No sounds the stillnes break,  
Ah when shall these sad hours be fled,  
Am I alone awake?

Ah no, I do not wake alone,  
Alone I do not sleep,  
Around me ever watcheth One  
Who wakes with those who weep.

On earth it is so dark and drear,  
With Him so calm and bright,  
'The stars in solemn radiance clear  
Shine there through all our night.

'Tis when the lights of earth are gone  
The heavenly glories shine;  
When other comfort I have none,  
Thy comfort, Lord, is mine.

---

Be still, my throbbing heart, be still,  
Cast off thy weary load,  
And make His holy will thy will,  
And rest upon thy God.

How many a time the night hath come,  
Yet still return'd the day ;  
How many a time thy cross, thy gloom,  
Ere now hath pass'd away.

And these dark hours of anxious pain  
That now oppress thee sore,  
I know will vanish soon again,  
Then I shall fear no more :

For when the night hath lasted long,  
We know the morn is near,  
And when the trial's sharp and strong  
Our Help shall soon appear.

PASTOR JOSEPHSEN.

## V.

## AT THE CLOSE OF THE SABBATH.



BIDE among us with Thy grace,  
Lord Jesus evermore,  
Nor let us e'er to sin give place  
Nor grieve Him we adore.

Abide among us with Thy word,  
Redeemer whom we love,  
Thy help and mercy here afford,  
And life with Thee above.

Abide among us with Thy ray,  
O Light that lighten't all,  
And let Thy truth preserve our way,  
Nor suffer us to fall.

Abide with us to bless us still  
O bounteous Lord of peace;  
With grace and power our souls fulfill,  
Our faith and love increase.

---

Abide among us as our shield,  
O Captain of Thy host;  
That to the world we may not yield,  
Nor e'er forsake our post.

Abide with us in faithful love,  
Our God and Saviour be,  
Thy help at need, oh let us prove  
And keep us true to Thee.

STEGMANN. 1630.

## BAPTISM.

## I.

## THE COMMAND.



LESSED Jesus, here we stand,  
Met to do as Thou hast spoken,  
And this child at Thy command  
Now we bring to Thee, in token  
That, to Christ it here is given,  
For of such shall be His Heaven.

Yes, Thy warning voice is plain,  
And we fain would keep it duly,  
“He who is not born again,  
Heart and life renewing truly,  
Born of water and the Spirit,  
Will My kingdom ne’er inherit.”

Therefore hasten we to Thee,  
Take the pledge we bring, oh take it  
Let us here Thy glory see,  
And in tender pity make it

---

Now Thy child, and leave it never,  
Thine on earth, and Thine for ever.

Turn the darkneſs into light,  
To Thy grace receive and ſave it;  
Heal the ſerpent's venom'd bite,  
In the font where now we lave it;  
Let Thy Spirit pure and lowly  
Banish thought or taint unholy.

Make it, Head, Thy member now,  
Shepherd, take Thy lamb, and feed it,  
Prince of Peace, its peace be Thou,  
Way of life, to Heaven oh lead it,  
Vine, this branch may nothing ſever,  
Be it graft in Thee forever.

Now upon Thy heart it lies,  
What our hearts ſo dearly treasure.  
Heavenward lead our burden'd ſighs,  
Pour Thy bleſſing without meaſure,  
Write the name we now have given,  
Write it in the book of Heaven.

SCHMOLCK. 1672-1737.

## II.

## THE NAME.



FATHER-HEART, who hast created all  
In wisest love we pray  
Look on this babe, who, at Thy gracious call  
Is entering on life's way,  
Bend o'er it now with blessing fraught,  
And make Thou something out of nought,  
O Father-heart.

O Son of God, who diedst for us, behold  
We bring our child to Thee,  
Thou tender Shepherd take it to Thy fold,  
Thine own for aye to be ;  
Defend it through this earthly strife,  
And lead it on the path of life,  
O Son of God !

O Holy Ghost, who broodest o'er the wave,  
Descend upon this child ;  
Give it undying life, its spirit lave  
With waters undefiled ;  
Grant it while yet a babe to be  
A child of God, a home for Thee,  
O Holy Ghost !


---

O Triune God, what Thou command'ft is done,  
    We ſpeak, but Thine the might:  
This child hath ſcarce yet ſeen our earthly fun,  
    Yet pour on it Thy light,  
In faith and hope, in joy and love,  
Thou Sun of all below, above,  
    O Triune God!

A. KNAPP.

## III.

## THE BLESSING.

HY parents' arms now yield thee,  
With love all glowing warm,  
To Him who best can shield thee  
To that Eternal Arm  
That all the heavens upholdeth  
And bids the dead arise,  
That tender babes enfoldeth  
And leads them toward the skies.

Wash'd in the blood that gushes  
From out His wounded heart,  
Wrapp'd in the peace that hushes  
All earthly grief and smart,  
Go forth upon thy journey,  
Grow up in strength and age,  
And seek with joy and wisdom  
Thy holy heritage.


Oh sweet will sound the voices  
That hail thee from above,  
Where heaven's bright host rejoices  
Before the Eternal Love ;

“ Now canst thou wander never,  
Now past is all thy strife,  
Oh bless the hour for ever  
That call'd thee into life.”

A. KNAPP.

## IV.

## FOR A CHRISTIAN CHILD.

EEING I am Jesus' lamb,  
Ever glad at heart I am  
O'er my Shepherd kind and good,  
Who provides me daily food,  
And His lamb by name doth call,  
For He knows and loves us all.


Guided by His gentle staff  
Where the sunny pastures laugh,  
I go in and out and feed,  
Lacking nothing that I need ;  
When I thirst my feet He brings  
To the fresh and living springs.

Must I not rejoice for this ?  
He is mine, and I am His,  
And when these bright days are past,  
Safely in His arms at last  
He will bear me home to heaven ;  
Ah what joy hath Jesus given !

LUISE H. VON HAYM. 1724-1782.

## V.

## RENEWAL OF THE VOW.

 AM baptized into Thy name,  
O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost !  
Among Thy seed a place I claim,  
Among Thy consecrated host ;  
Buried with Christ, and dead to sin,  
Thy Spirit now shall live within.

My loving Father, here dost Thou  
Proclaim me as Thy child and heir ;  
My faithful Saviour biddest me now  
The fruit of all Thy sorrows share ;  
Thou Holy Ghost wilt comfort me  
When darkest clouds around I see.

And I have promised fear and love,  
And to obey Thee, Lord, alone ;  
I felt Thy Spirit in me move,  
And dared to pledge myself Thine own,  
Renouncing sin to keep the faith,  
And war with evil to the death.

My faithful God, upon Thy side  
This covenant standeth fast for aye,  
If I transgress through fear or pride,  
Oh cast me therefore not away,  
If I have sore my soul defiled,  
Yet still forgive, restore Thy child.

I bring Thee here, my God, anew  
Of all I am or have the whole,  
Quicken my life, and make me true,  
Take full possession of my soul,  
Let nought within me, nought I own,  
Serve any will but Thine alone.

Hence Prince of darkness, hence my foe!  
Another Lord hath purchased me!  
My conscience tells of sin, yet know,  
Baptized in Christ I fear not thee!  
Away vain World, Sin, leave me now,  
I turn from you; God hears my vow.


And never let me waver more,  
O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
Till at Thy will this life is o'er  
Still keep me in Thy faithful host,  
So unto Thee I live and die  
And praise Thee evermore on high.

RAMBACH. 1720.

THE  
HOLY COMMUNION.

I.

THE PREPARATION.

ORD Jesus Christ, my faithful Shepherd,  
hear!  
Feed me with Thy grace, draw inly  
near.

By Thee redeemed, in Thee alone I live,  
All I need 'tis Thou canst give :  
Kyrie Eleison !

Ah Lord, Thy timid sheep now feed  
With joy upon Thy heavenly mead,  
Lead us to the crystal river  
Whence our life is flowing ever :  
Kyrie Eleison !

For Thou art calling all the toil-oppressed,  
All the weary to Thy rest ;  
The pardon of their sins is here bestowed,  
Thou dost free them from their load :  
Kyrie Eleison !

Ah come, Thyself put forth Thine hand,  
Unbind this heavy iron band,

Make me from my sorrows free,  
Give me strength to follow Thee :  
Kyrie Eleison !

Thou fain would'st heart and soul to Thee incline,  
Take me from myself and make me Thine ;  
Thou art the Vine and I the branch, oh grant  
I may grow in Thee a living plant :


Kyrie Eleison !

For nought but sins I find in me,  
Yet are they done away in Thee ;  
Mine are anguish, fear, unrest,  
But in Thee, Lord, I am blest :  
Kyrie Eleison !

JOHANN HEERMANN. 1630.

## II.

## THE THANKSGIVING.

ECK thyself, my soul, with gladness,  
Leave the gloomy haunts of sadness,  
Come into the daylight's splendour,  
There with joy thy praises render  
Unto Him, whose boundless grace  
Grants thee at His feast a place ;  
He whom all the heavens obey  
Deign to dwell in thee to-day.

Haften as a bride to meet Him,  
And with loving reverence greet Him,  
Who with words of life immortal  
Now is knocking at thy portal ;  
Haste to make for Him a way,  
Cast thee at His feet, and say :  
Since, oh Lord, Thou com'st to me,  
Never will I turn from Thee.

Ah how hungers all my spirit,  
For the love I do not merit !  
Ah how oft with sighs fast thronging  
For this food have I been longing !

How have thirsted in the strife  
For this draught, O Prince of Life,  
Wish'd, O Friend of man, to be  
Ever one with God through Thee!

Here I sink before Thee lowly,  
Fill'd with joy most deep and holy,  
As with trembling awe and wonder  
On Thy mighty works I ponder;  
On this banquet's mystery,  
On the depths we cannot see;  
Far beyond all mortal fight  
Lie the secrets of Thy might.

Sun, who all my life dost brighten,  
Light, who dost my soul enlighten,  
Joy, the sweetest man e'er knoweth,  
Fount, whence all my being floweth,  
Here I fall before Thy feet,  
Grant me worthily to eat  
Of this blessed heavenly food,  
To Thy praise, and to my good.

Jesus, Bread of Life from Heaven,  
Never be Thou vainly given,  
Nor I to my hurt invited;  
Be Thy love with love requited;  
Let me learn its depths indeed,  
While on Thee my soul doth feed;  
Let me here so richly blest,  
Be hereafter too Thy guest.

## III.

THE EXCEEDING GREAT LOVE OF OUR  
MASTER AND ONLY SAVIOUR  
JESUS CHRIST.

LOVE, who formedst me to wear  
The image of Thy Godhead here ;  
Who soughtest me with tender care  
Through all my wanderings wild and  
drear ;

O Love, I give myself to Thee,  
Thine ever, only Thine to be.

O Love, who e'er life's earliest dawn  
On me Thy choice hast gently laid ;  
O Love, who here as man wast born  
And wholly like to us wast made ;  
O Love, I give myself to Thee,  
Thine ever, only Thine to be.

O Love, who once in time wast slain,  
Pierced through and through with bitter  
woe ;

O Love, who wrestling thus didst gain  
That we eternal joy might know ;

O Love, I give myself to Thee,  
Thine ever, only Thine to be.

O Love, of whom is truth and light,  
The Word and Spirit, life and power,  
Whose heart was bared to them that smite,  
To shield us in our trial hour ;  
O Love, I give myself to Thee,  
Thine ever, only Thine to be.


O Love, who thus hath bound me fast,  
Beneath that gentle yoke of Thine ;  
Love, who hast conquer'd me at last  
And rapt away this heart of mine ;  
O Love, I give myself to Thee,  
Thine ever, only Thine to be.

O Love, who lovest me for aye,  
Who for my soul dost ever plead ;  
O Love, who didst my ransom pay.  
Whose power sufficeth in my stead  
O Love, I give myself to Thee,  
Thine ever, only Thine to be.

O Love, who once shalt bid me rise  
From out this dying life of ours ;  
O Love, who once o'er yonder skies  
Shalt set me in the fadeless bowers :  
O Love, I give myself to Thee,  
Thine ever, only Thine to be.

## IV.

## THE CHRISTIAN SACRIFICE.

OW take my heart and all that is in me,  
My Lord beloved, take it from me to  
Thee ;  
I would have Thine.

This soul and flesh of mine ;  
Would order thought and word and deed  
As Thy most holy will shall lead.

Thou feedst me with heavenly bread and wine,  
Thou pourest through me streams of life divine ;  
Oh noble Face,  
So sweet, so full of grace,  
I ponder as Thy cross I see,  
How best to give myself to Thee.


Behold, through all the eternal ages, still  
My heart shall choose and love Thy holy will ;  
Would'st Thou my death,  
I die to Thee in faith ;  
Would'st Thou that I should longer live,  
To Thee the choice I wholly give.

But Thou must also deign to be my own,  
To dwell in me, to make my heart Thy throne,  
My God indeed,  
My Help in time of need,  
My Head from whom no power can sever,  
The Bridegroom of my soul for ever!

ANGELUS. 1657.

## V.

## THE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP.

 ESUS whom Thy Church doth own  
As her Head and King along,  
Bless me Thy poor member too;  
And Thy Spirit's influence give  
That to Thee henceforth I live,  
Daily Thou my strength renew.

Let Thy living Spirit flow  
Through Thy members all below,  
With its warmth and power divine;  
Scattered far apart they dwell,  
Yet in every land, full well,  
Lord, Thou knowest who is Thine.

Those who serve Thee I would serve,  
Never from their union swerve.  
Here I cry before Thy face:  
Zion, God give thee good speed,  
Christ thy footsteps ever lead,  
Make Thee steadfast in His ways!

Save her from the world her foe,  
Satan do Thou soon o'erthrow,  
    Cast him down beneath her feet ;  
Through the Spirit slay within  
Love of ease, the world, and sin,  
    Let her find Thee only sweet.

Those o'er whom Thy billows roll  
Strengthen Thou to leave their soul  
    In Thy hands, for Thou art Love ;  
Make them through their bitter pain  
Pure from pride and sinful stain,  
    Fix their hopes and hearts above.

Unto all Thyself impart,  
Fashioned after Thine own heart  
    Make Thy children like to Thee ;  
Humble, pure, and calm, and still,  
Loving, single as Thy will,  
    And as Thou would'st have them be.

And from those I love, I pray,  
Turn not, Lord, Thy face away,  
    Hear me while for them I plead ;  
Be Thou their Eternal Friend,  
Unto each due blessing send,  
    For Thou knowest all they need.

Ah Lord, at this gracious hour  
Visit all their souls with power ;  
    Let Thy gladness in them shine ;

Draw them with Thy love away  
From vain pleasures of a day,  
Make them wholly ever Thine.


Dearly were we purchased, Lord,  
When Thy blood for us was poured;  
Think, O Christ, we are Thine own!  
Hold me, guide me, as a child,  
Through the battle, through the wild,  
Leave me never more alone.

Till at last I meet on high  
With the faithful host who cry  
Hallelujah night and day;  
Pure from stain we there shall see  
Thee in us, and us in Thee,  
And be one in Thee for aye.

TERSTEEGEN. 1731.

## VI.

## THE REMEMBRANCE.

 H how could I forget Him  
Who ne'er forgetteth me?  
Or tell the love that let Him -  
Come down to set me free?  
I lay in darkest sadness,  
Till He made all things new,  
And still fresh love and gladness  
Flow from that heart so true.

Oh how could I e'er leave Him  
Who is so kind a Friend?  
Or how could ever grieve Him  
Who thus to me doth bend?  
Have I not seen Him dying  
For us on yonder tree?  
Do I not hear Him crying,  
Arise and follow Me!

For ever will I love Him  
Who saw my hopeless plight,  
Who felt my sorrows move Him,  
And brought me life and light:

Whose arm shall be around me  
When my last hour is come,  
And suffer none to wound me,  
Though dark the passage home.

He gives me pledges holy,  
His body and His blood,  
He lifts the scorn'd, the lowly,  
He makes my courage good,  
For He will reign within me,  
And shed His graces there;  
The heaven He died to win me  
Can I then fail to share?

In joy and sorrow ever  
Shine through me, Blessed Heart,  
Who bleeding for us never  
Didst shrink from forest smart!  
Whate'er I've loved or striven  
Or borne, I bring to Thee;  
Now let Thy heart and heaven  
Stand open, Lord, to me!

KERN. Died 1835.

## VII.

## AFTER PARTICIPATION.



LIVING Bread from Heaven,  
How richly hast Thou fed Thy guest !  
The gifts Thou now hast given  
Have fill'd my heart with joy and rest.  
O wondrous food of blessing,  
O cup that heals our woes,  
My heart this gift possessing  
In thankful song o'erflows ;  
For while the life and strength in me  
Were quicken'd by this food,  
My soul hath gazed awhile on Thee,  
O highest, only Good !

My Lord, Thou here hast led me  
Within Thy temple's holiest place,  
And there Thyself hast fed me  
With all the treasures of Thy grace ;  
And Thou hast freely given  
What earth could never buy,  
The bread of life from heaven,  
That now I shall not die ;

And Thou hast suffer'd me in faith  
To drink the blessed wine  
That heals the soul from inner death,  
And makes her wholly Thine.

Thou givest all I wanted,  
The food whose power can death destroy,  
And Thou hast freely granted  
The cup of full eternal joy ;  
Ah Lord, I do not merit  
The favour Thou hast shown,  
And all my soul and spirit  
Bow down before Thy throne ;  
Since Thou hast suffer'd me to eat  
The food of angels here,  
Nor Sin, nor foes that I can meet.  
Nor Death I now may fear.

O Love incomprehended !  
'That wrought in Thee, my Saviour, thus  
That Thou should'st have descended  
From highest heaven to dwell with us !  
Creator, that hath brought Thee  
To succour such as I,  
Who else had vainly fought Thee !  
Then grant me now to die  
To sin, and live alone to Thee,  
That when this time is o'er,  
Thy face, O Saviour, I may see  
In heaven or evermore.

For as a shadow passes  
I pass, but Thou dost still endure ;  
I wither like the grasses,  
But Thou art rich, though I am poor ;  
Oh boundless is Thy kindness,  
And righteous is Thy power ;  
And I in sinful blindness  
Am erring hour by hour,  
And yet Thou comest, dost not spurn  
A sinner, Lord, like me !  
Ah how can I Thy love return,  
What gift have I for Thee ?

A heart that hath repented,  
And mourns for sin with bitter sighs,—  
Thou, Lord, art well-contented  
With this my only sacrifice.  
I know that in my weakness  
Thou wilt despise me not,  
But grant me in Thy meekness  
The favour I have fought ;  
Yes, Thou wilt deign in grace to heed  
The song that now I raise,  
For meet and right is it indeed  
That I should sing Thy praise.

Grant what I have partaken  
May through Thy grace so work in me,  
That sin be all forsaken,  
And I may cleave alone to Thee,

And all my soul be heedful  
How she Thy love may know,  
For this alone is needful,  
Thy love should in me glow;  
And let no beauty please mine eyes  
No joy allure my heart,  
But what in Thee, my Saviour lies,  
What Thou dost here impart.


O well for me that strengthen'd  
With heavenly bread and wine, if here  
My course on earth be lengthen'd,  
I now may serve Thee free from fear;  
Away then earthly pleasure,  
All earthly gifts are vain,  
I seek a heavenly treasure,  
My home I long to gain,  
Where I shall live and praise my God,  
And none my peace destroy,  
Where all the soul is overflow'd  
With pure eternal joy.

RIST. 1651.

## FOR TRAVELLERS.

## I.

## AT THE OUTSET OF ANY JOURNEY.

 N God's name let us on our way !  
The Father's help and grace we pray,  
His love shall guard us round about  
From foes within and harms without.  
Hallelujah.


And Christ, be Thou our Friend and Guide,  
Through all our wanderings at our side,  
Help us all evil to withstand  
That wars against Thy least command.  
Hallelujah.

The Holy Spirit o'er us brood  
With all His gifts of richest good,  
With hope and strength when dark our road,  
And lead us home again in God !  
Hallelujah.

## II.

## ON A LONG AND PERILOUS JOURNEY.

WRITTEN on a Journey to Russia and Persia, undertaken by the Author as Physician to the Embassy from Holstein.

 HERE'ER I go, whate'er my task,  
The counfel of my God I ask,  
Who all things hath and can ;  
Unless He give both thought and deed  
The utmost pains can ne'er succeed,  
And vain the wifest plan.

For what can all my toil avail ?  
My care, my watching all must fail,  
Unless my God is there ;  
Then let Him order all for me  
As He in wisdom shall decree ;  
On Him I cast my care.

For nought can come, as nought hath been,  
But what my Father hath foreseen,  
And what shall work my good ;

Whate'er He gives me I will take,  
Whate'er He chooses I will make  
My choice with thankful mood.

I lean upon His mighty arm,  
It shields me well from every harm,  
All evil shall avert ;  
If by His precepts still I live  
Whate'er is useful He will give,  
And nought shall do me hurt.

But only may He of His grace  
The record of my guilt efface,  
And wipe out all my debt ;  
Though I have sinned He will not straight  
Pronounce His judgment, He will wait,  
Have patience with me yet.

I travel to a distant land  
To serve the post wherein I stand,  
Which He hath bade me fill ;  
And He will bless me with His light  
That I may serve His world aright,  
And make me know His will.

And though through desert wilds I fare,  
Yet Christian friends are with me there,  
And Christ Himself is near ;  
In all our dangers He will come,  
And He who kept me safe at home,  
Can keep me safely here.

Yes, He will speed us on our way,  
And point us where to go and stay,  
And help us still and lead;  
Let us in health and safety live,  
And time and wind and weather give,  
And whatfoe'er we need.

When late at night my rest I take,  
When early in the morn I wake,  
Halting or on my way,  
In hours of weakness or in bonds,  
When vexed with fears my heart desponds,  
His promise is my stay.

Since then my course is traced by Him  
I will not fear that future dim,  
But go to meet my doom,  
Well knowing nought can wait me there  
Too hard for me through Him to bear;  
I yet shall overcome.

To Him myself I wholly give,  
At His command I die or live,  
I trust His love and power:  
Whether to-morrow or to-day  
His summons come, I will obey,  
He knows the proper hour,

But if it please that love most kind,  
And if this voice within my mind  
Is whispering not in vain,

I yet shall praise my God e'er long  
In many a sweet and joyful song,  
In peace at home again.


To those I love will He be near,  
With His consoling light appear,  
Who is my shield and theirs ;  
And He will grant beyond our thought  
What they and I alike have sought  
With many tearful prayers.

Then, oh my soul, be ne'er afraid,  
On Him who thee and all things made  
Do thou all calmly rest  
Whate'er may come, where'er we go,  
Our Father in the heavens must know  
In all things what is best.

PAUL FLEMMING. 1631.

## III.

## PRAYERS AT SEA.

 LORD, be this our vessel now  
A worthy temple unto Thee,  
Though none may hear its bells but Thou  
And this our little company.

Our church's roof, yon mighty dome,  
Shall ring with hymns we learnt at home,  
Our floor the boundless tossing wave,  
Our field, our path, perchance our grave.

Where shall we aid and comfort find  
With toils and perils all around ?  
Command, O mighty God, the wind  
To bear us whither we are bound ;  
Oh bring us to our home once more  
From weary wanderings safe to shore ;  
And those who follow us with prayer  
Keep Thou in Thy most tender care.

And as the needle while we rove,  
To one point still is true and just  
So let our hope and faith and love  
Be fix'd in One in whom we trust ;

His word is mighty still to save,  
He still can walk the stormiest wave,  
And hold His followers with His hand,  
For His are heaven and sea and land.

F. WINKELMANN.

## IV.

## ON THE SEA-SHORE.



THOU, solemn Ocean, rollest to the strand  
Laden with prayers from many a far-off  
land,  
To us thy thousand murmurs at our feet  
One cry repeat.

Through all thy myriad tones that never cease  
We hear of death and love, the cross and peace,  
New churches bright with hope and glad with  
psalms,  
And martyrs' palms.

Then on ! and come whate'er our God sees fit !  
To yon frail wave-toft planks we now commit  
Our lives, our all, and leave our native land  
At His command.

We take thee for our chariot, stormy Sea !  
Borne safely on to serve our God by thee,  
For thou and we alike obey His word  
And own Him Lord.


And whether thy chill deeps become our grave,  
Or far away our blood shall stain thy wave,  
Or we shall cross with joyous songs thy foam  
Back to our home :

Be it as He ordains whose name is Love !  
Whether our lot or life or death shall prove,  
To Life Eternal surely guides His will,  
And we are still.

DE LA MOTTE FOUQUE.

## V.

## THE PARTING.

OW we must leave our father-land,  
And wander far o'er ocean's foam ;  
Broken is kinship's dearest band,  
Forfaken stands our ancient home ;  
But One will ever with us go  
Through busiest day and stillest night ;  
The heavens above, the deeps below  
Shrink abash'd before His sight.

Then be the issue life or death,  
Let Him do as it seems Him best,  
The messenger of Christian faith  
Looks not in this world for his rest.  
If but His hand still hold us fast,  
His presence hourly fold us round,  
The anchor of our souls is cast  
Firm in the One eternal ground.

The voice of Everlasting Love,  
That rang with living power through us,  
Is worthy thus our souls to move,  
Worthy to fill a lifetime thus ;

Here none was e'er deceived or lost,  
Howe'er his earthly hopes might fade;  
Then well for him who weighs the cost  
Ere yet his final choice is made.

Yes, scatter'd are our brothers now  
O'er land and ocean far apart,  
Yet to one Master still they bow,  
In Him they still are one in heart;  
For as ONE sin, ONE poison ran  
Through all our race since Adam's fall;  
There is ONE hope, ONE life for man  
In Him who bore the sins of all.

Sweet for each other oft to plead,  
And feel our oneness in the Son,  
Ah then we daily meet indeed  
In' spirit at our Father's throne!  
Our bodies are but parted here,  
And fade in this dark land away,  
The earthly shadows disappear,  
The harvest ripens for that Day.

Soon Time for us shall cease to reign,  
The Saviour calls us home in peace;  
At last we all shall meet again,  
And dwell together all in bliss,  
Where faith to clearest vision yields;—  
Triumphant light for sorrowing gloom,  
For desert wastes fair Eden's fields,  
For tearful paths a blessed home!

ALBERT KNAPP.

## VI.

## ON THE VOYAGE.

**I**N our sails all soft and sweetly,  
Yet with bold resistless force,  
Breathe the winds of heaven, and fleetly  
Wing us on our watery course;  
Swift, and swifter, furrowing deep  
Through the mighty waves, that keep  
Not a trace where we have been,  
On we speed to lands unseen!

Sink thou deeply in our mind,  
Type of life, most apt and true!  
Though we leave no track behind,  
Yet we plough our furrows too,  
Where, from out a world of bliss,  
Falls the seed unseen of this,  
And an unseen distant home  
Beckons o'er the desert foam.

Be our voyage, brethren, such  
That if direst peril came,  
Wreck and ruin could not touch  
Aught but this our weary frame;

That may gladly sleep the while,  
Still and blest the soul shall smile,  
In the eternal peace of Heaven,  
That our God hath surely given.


Oh that in that blessed peace  
Many and many a soul may rest!  
That through us might God increase  
Soon the number of the blest!  
Free through us the souls that now  
'Neath a bitter bondage bow;  
Whom yet darkest error binds!  
Speed, oh speed us on, ye winds!

DE LA MOTTE FOUQUE.

AT THE  
BURIAL OF THE DEAD.

## I.

## THE SURE AND CERTAIN HOPE.

OW lay we calmly in the grave  
This form, whereof no doubt we have  
That it shall rise again that Day  
In glorious triumph o'er decay.

And so to earth again we trust  
What came from dust, and turns to dust,  
And from the dust shall surely rise  
When the last trumpet fills the skies.

His soul is living now in God  
Whose grace his pardon hath bestowed,  
Who through His Son redeemed him here  
From bondage unto sin and fear.

His trials and his griefs are past,  
A blessed end is his at last,  
He bore Christ's yoke, and did His will,  
And though he died, he liveth still.

He lives where none can mourn and weep,  
And calmly shall this body sleep  
Till God shall Death himself destroy,  
And raise it into glorious joy.

He suffered pain and grief below,  
Christ heals him now from all his woe,  
For him hath endless joy begun,  
He shines in glory like the sun.


Then let us leave him to his rest,  
And homewards turn, for he is blest,  
And we must well our souls prepare,  
When death shall come, to meet him there.

Then help us, Christ, our Hope in loss!  
Thou hast redeemed us by Thy cross  
From endless death and misery;  
We praise, we bless, we worship Thee!

MICHAEL WEISS. 1531.

## II.

## THE DEPARTURE OF A CHRISTIAN.

OW weeping at the grave we stand  
And sow the seed of tears,  
The form of him who in our band  
On earth no more appears.

Ah no, for he hath safely come  
Where we too would attain;  
He dwells within our Father's home,  
And death to him was gain.

Now he beholds what we believe,  
He has what here we want,  
The sins no more his soul can grieve  
That here the pilgrim haunt;  
The Lord hath claimed him for His own  
And sent him calm release;  
We weep, but it is we alone,  
He dwells in perfect peace.


He wears the crown of life on high,  
He bears the shining palm,

Where angels "Holy, holy," cry,  
He joins their glorious psalm.  
But we poor pilgrims journey on  
Through this dark land of woe,  
Until we go where he is gone,  
And all his joy shall know.

SPITTA.

## III.

## THE LORD DOTH ALL THINGS WELL.

HRIST will gather in His own  
To the place where He is gone,  
Where their heart and treasure lie,  
Where our life is hid on high.

Day by day the voice saith, "Come,  
Enter thine eternal home;"  
Asking not if we can spare  
This dear soul it summons there.


Had He asked us, well we know  
We should cry, oh spare this blow!  
Yes, with streaming tears should pray,  
"Lord, we love him, let him stay!"

But the Lord doth nought amiss,  
And since He hath ordered this,  
We have nought to do but still  
Rest in silence on His will.

Many a heart no longer here,  
Ah! was all too inly dear;  
Yet, O Love, 'tis Thou dost call,  
Thou wilt be our All in all.

## IV.

## THE LIGHT IN DARKNESS.

HOUGH Love may weep with breaking  
heart,  
There comes, O Christ, a Day of Thine,  
There is a Morning Star must shine,  
And all these shadows shall depart.


Though Faith may droop and tremble here,  
That Day of light shall surely come ;  
His path has led him safely home ;  
When twilight breaks the dawn is near.

Though Hope seem now to have hoped in vain,  
And Death seem king of all below,  
There yet shall come the Morning-glow,  
And wake our slumberers once again.

F. A. KRUMMACHER.

## V.

## THE DEATH OF A LITTLE CHILD.

ENTLE Shepherd, Thou hast stilled  
Now Thy little lamb's long weeping;  
Ah how peaceful, pale, and mild,  
In its narrow bed 'tis sleeping,  
And no sigh of anguish fore  
Heaves that little bosom more.


In this world of care and pain,  
Lord, Thou wouldst no longer leave it,  
To the sunny heavenly plain  
Dost Thou now with joy receive it,  
Clothed in robes of spotless white,  
Now it dwells with Thee in light.

Ah Lord Jesus, grant that we  
Where it lives may soon be living,  
And the lovely pastures see  
That its heavenly food are giving,  
Then the gain of death we prove  
Though Thou take what most we love.

MEINHOLD.

## VI.

## ON THE DEATH OF HIS SON.


 THOU'RT mine, yes, still thou art mine  
                     own!  
           Who tells me thou art lost?  
       But yet thou art not mine alone,  
           I own that He who cross'd  
       My hopes, hath greatest right in thee;  
       Yea, though He ask and take from me  
       Thee, O my son, my heart's delight,  
       My wish, my thought, by day and night.

      Ah might I wish, ah might I choose,  
           Then thou, my Star, shouldst live,  
       And gladly for thy sake I'd lose  
           All else that life can give.  
       Oh fain I'd say: Abide with me,  
       The sunshine of my house to be,  
       No other joy but this I crave,  
       To love thee, darling, to my grave!

      Thus faith my heart, and means it well,  
           God meaneth better still;  
       My love is more than words can tell,  
           His love is greater still;

I am a father, He the Head  
And Crown of fathers, whence is shed  
The life and love from which have sprung  
All blessed ties in old and young.

I long for thee, my son, my own,  
And He who once hath given,  
Will have thee now beside His throne,  
To live with Him in heaven.  
I cry, Alas! my light, my child!  
But God hath welcome on him smiled,  
And said: "My child, I keep thee near,  
For there is nought but gladness here."

Oh blessed word, oh deep decree,  
More holy than we think!  
With God no grief or woe can be,  
No bitter cup to drink,  
No sickening hopes, no want or care,  
No hurt can ever reach him there;  
Yes, in that Father's sheltered home  
I know that sorrow cannot come.

We pass our nights in wakeful thought  
For our dear children's sake;  
All day our anxious toil hath fought  
How best for them to make  
A future safe from care or need,  
Yet seldom do our schemes succeed;  
How seldom does their future prove  
What we had planned for those we love!

How many a child of promise fair  
Ere now hath gone astray,  
By ill example taught to dare  
Forsake Christ's holy way.  
Oh fearful the reward is then,  
The wrath of God, the scorn of men!  
The bitterest tears that e'er are shed  
Are his who mourns a child misled.

But now I need not fear for thee,  
Where thou art, all is well;  
For thou thy Father's Face doth see,  
With Jesus thou dost dwell!  
Yes, cloudless joys around him shine,  
His heart shall never ache like mine,  
He sees the radiant armies glow  
That keep and guide us here below:

He hears their singing evermore,  
His little voice too sings,  
He drinks of wisdom deepest lore,  
He speaks of secret things,  
That we can never see or know  
Howe'er we seek or strive below,  
While yet amid the mists we stand  
That veil this dark and tearful land.

Oh that I could but watch afar,  
And hearken but awhile,  
To that sweet song that hath no jar,  
And see his heavenly smile,

As he doth praise the holy God,  
Who made him pure for that abode !  
In tears of joy full well I know  
This burdened heart would overflow.

And I should say : Stay here, my son,  
My wild laments are o'er,  
O well for thee that thou hast won,  
I call thee back no more ;  
But come, thou fiery chariot, come,  
And bear me swiftly to that home,  
Where he with many a loved one dwells,  
And evermore of gladness tells !

Then be it as my Father wills,  
I will not weep for thee ;  
Thou livest, joy thy spirit fills,  
Pure sunshine thou dost see,  
The sunshine of eternal rest :  
Abide, my child, where thou art blest ;  
I with our friends will onward fare,  
And, when God wills, shall find thee there.

PAUL GERHARDT. 1650.



PART II.

THE INNER LIFE.



# PENITENCE.

## I.

### THE ONLY HELPER.

**L**ORD Jesus Christ, in Thee alone  
My hope on earth I place ;  
For other comforter is none,  
Nor help save in Thy grace.  
There is no man nor creature here,  
No angel in the heavenly sphere,  
Who at my need can succour me;  
I cry to Thee,  
For Thou canst end my misery.

My sin is very sore and great,  
I mourn its load beneath ;  
Oh free me from this heavy weight  
Through Thy most precious death ;  
And with Thy Father for me plead  
That Thou hast suffer'd in my stead,  
The burden then from me is roll'd ;  
Lord, I lay hold  
On Thy dear promises of old.

And of Thy grace on me bestow  
True Christian faith, O Lord,  
That all the sweetness I may know  
That in Thy cross is stored,  
Love Thee o'er earthly pride or pelf,  
And love my neighbour as myself;  
And when at last is come my end,  
Be Thou my Friend,  
From all assaults my soul defend.

Glory to God in highest heaven,  
The Father of all love;  
To His dear Son, for sinners given  
Whose grace we daily prove;  
To God the Holy Ghost we cry,  
That we may find His comfort nigh,  
And learn how, free from sin and fear,  
To please Him here,  
And serve Him in the sinless sphere.

J. SCHNEESING. 1522.

II.

SUBMISSION.



LAS! my Lord and God,  
                     How heavy is my load,  
 My sins are great and weigh me to the  
                     ground;  
 The yoke doth sorely press,  
 And yet in my distress  
 Through all the world no helper can be found.

And fled I in my fear  
 Far far away from here,  
 To the earth's remotest end—Thou still wert there.  
 My anguish and my pain  
 Would yet with me remain;  
 I could not flee away from despair.

'Tis Thou canst help alone,  
 I cast me at Thy throne,  
 Reject me not, though I deserve it, Lord;  
 Ah think of all Thy Son  
 For me, for me, hath done,  
 Nor let me feel Thy sharp avenging sword.

And if it must be so,  
That punishment and woe  
Must follow sin, then let me bear it here ;  
Low at Thy feet I bow,  
Oh let me suffer now,  
But spare me yonder, then in love appear.

Oh Lord, forget my sin,  
And deign to put within  
A calm obedient heart, a patient mind,  
That I may murmur not,  
Though bitter seem my lot,  
For hearts unthankful can no blessing find.

Do Thou, O Lord, with me  
As seemeth best to Thee,  
For Thou wilt strengthen me to bear the rod,  
For this alone I pray,  
Oh cast me not away,  
For ever from Thy grace, Thou pitying God.

Nay, that Thou wilt not do,  
I know Thy word is true,  
My faith can rest in quiet hope on Thee,  
The death of Christ, I know,  
Hath freed me from my woe,  
And open'd heaven to sinners and to me.

Lord Jesus, where Thou art  
All doubt and dread depart,

My refuge is the cross where Thou wast slain,  
Where Thou, Lord, for our sake  
Didst all our griefs partake,  
And die our comfort and our grace to gain.


Here at my Saviour's side,  
Here let me still abide,  
Then death may come, but little he destroys ;  
Though soul and body part,  
I live where Thou, Lord, art,  
My sins wiped out amid eternal joys.

All praise to God alone,  
Who claims me for His own,  
Through Christ my Lord ; oh let me trust Him  
then,  
And lean in fullest faith  
On what my Saviour saith,  
He who believeth shall be saved ; Amen.

RUTILIUS. 1604 ; and GROSS. 1627.

## III.

## IN GREAT INWARD DISTRESS.

 ESUS, pitying Saviour, hear me,  
Draw Thou near me,  
Turn Thee, Lord, in grace to me;  
For Thou knowest all my sorrow,  
Night and morrow  
Doth my cry go up to Thee.

Loft in darknefs, girt with dangers,  
Round me strangers,  
Through an alien land I roam,  
Outward trials, bitter losses,  
Inward crosses,  
Lord, Thou knowest have fought me home.

See the fetters that have bound me,  
Snares surround me,  
Free the captive, hear my call;  
Ah from sin my soul I never  
Can deliver,  
I am weak and helpless all.

Though the tempter's wiles and cunning  
I am shunning,  
Yet they vex and wound me fore ;  
Oft I waver, oft I languish,  
Fill'd with anguish,  
Strength and rest are mine no more.

Peace I cannot find, oh take me,  
Lord, and make me  
From the yoke of evil free ;  
Calm this longing never-sleeping,  
Still my weeping,  
Grant me hope once more in Thee.

Sin of courage hath bereft me,  
And hath left me  
Scarce a spark of faith or hope ;  
Bitter tears my heart oft sheddeth  
As it dreadeth  
I am past Thy mercy's scope.

Lord, wilt Thou be wroth for ever ?  
Oh deliver  
Me from all I most deserved ;  
'Tis Thyself, dear Lord, hast fought me,  
Thou hast taught me  
Thee to seek from whom I swerved.

Thou, my God and King, hast known me,  
Yet hast shewn me  
True and loving is Thy will ;

Though my heart from Thee oft ranges,  
Through its changes,  
Lord, Thy love is faithful still.

Satan watches to betray me,  
He would flay me,  
Quicken Thou my faith and powers,  
Let me, though Thy face Thou'rt hiding,  
Still confiding,  
Look to Thee in darkest hours.

Bless my trials thus to sever  
Me for ever  
From the love of self and sin ;  
Let me through them see Thee clearer,  
Find Thee nearer,  
Grow more like to Thee within.

In the patience that Thou lendest  
All Thou sendest  
I embrace, I will be still ;  
Bend this stubborn heart I pray Thee  
To obey Thee,  
Calmly waiting on Thy will.

Here I bring my will, oh take it,  
Thine, Lord, make it,  
Calm this troubled heart of mine ;  
In Thy strength I too may conquer,  
Wait no longer,  
Show in me Thy grace Divine.

## IV.

THE WEAKNESS AND RESTLESSNESS  
OF SIN.

JESUS, Lord of majesty !

O glorious King, eternal Son !

In mercy bend Thou down to me,

As now I cast me at Thy throne.

Enslaved to vanity, and weak,

An alien power in me hath sway

My strength is gone, howe'er I seek

I cannot break my bonds away.

How oft my heart against my will

Is torn and tossing to and fro,

I cannot, as I would, fulfill

The good that yet I love and know.

How many ties oppress and bind

The soul that yearneth to be free ;

Distracted, vanquish'd, oft the mind

That fain would rest at peace in Thee.

I practise me in self-controul,  
Yet rest and calm in vain pursue ;  
Self-will is rooted in my soul,  
And thwarts me still, whate'er I do.

I hate it, but its life is strong,  
I fear, yet cannot it forsake ;  
Ah Lord, how long it seems, how long,  
Until Thy grace my yoke shall break !

Ah Jesus, when, when wilt Thou lead  
The prisoner from this drear abode ?  
When shall I feel that I am freed,  
And Thou art with me, Son of God ?

Oh take this heart that I would give  
For ever to be all Thine own ;  
I to myself no more would live ;  
Come, Lord, be 'Thou my King alone.

Yes, take my heart, and in it rule,  
Direct it as it pleases Thee ;  
I will be silent in Thy school,  
And learn whate'er 'Thou teachest me.

What lives by life that is not Thine  
I yield it to Thy righteous doom ;  
What yet resists Thy power Divine,  
Oh let Thy fire of love consume.

And then within the heart abide  
That 'Thou hast cleansed to be Thy throne ;

---

A look from Thee shall be my guide,  
I watch but till Thy will is known.

Yes, make me Thine,—though I am weak,  
Thy service makes us strong and free;  
My Lord and King, Thy face I seek,  
For ever keep me true to Thee.

TERSTEEGEN. 1731.

## V.

## A CHRISTIAN'S DAILY PRAYER.



GOD, Thou faithful God,  
Thou Fountain ever flowing,  
Without Whom nothing is,  
All perfect gifts bestowing ;  
A pure and healthy frame  
Oh give me, and within  
A conscience pure from blame,  
A soul unhurt by sin.

And grant me, Lord, to do,  
With ready heart and willing,  
Whate'er Thou shalt command,  
My calling here fulfilling,  
And do it when I ought,  
With all my strength, and blest  
The work I thus have wrought,  
For Thou must give success.

And let me promise nought  
But I can keep it truly,  
Abstain from idle words,  
And guard my lips still duly ;

And grant, when in my place  
I must and ought to speak,  
My words due power and grace,  
Nor let me wound the weak.

If dangers gather round,  
Yet keep me calm and fearless;  
And help me bear the cross  
When life is dark and cheerless;  
And overcome my foe  
With words and actions kind;  
When counsel I would know,  
Good counsel let me find.

And let me be with all  
In peace and friendship living,  
As far as Christians may;  
And if Thou aught art giving  
Of wealth and honours fair,  
Oh this refuse me not,  
That nought be mingled there  
Of goods unjustly got.

And if a longer life  
Be here on earth decreed me,  
And Thou through many a strife  
To age at last wilt lead me,  
Thy patience in me shed,  
Avert all sin and shame,  
And crown my hoary head  
With pure, untarnish'd fame.


Let nothing that may chance,  
From Christ my Saviour sever,  
And dying with Him, take  
My soul to Thee for ever ;  
And let my body have ;  
A little space to sleep  
Beside my father's grave,  
And friends that o'er it weep.

And when the Day is come,  
And all the dead are waking,  
Oh reach me down Thy hand,  
Thyself my slumbers breaking ;  
Then let me hear Thy voice,  
And change this earthly frame,  
And bid me aye rejoice  
With those who love Thy name.

JOHANN HEERMANN. 1630.

## VI.

## THE DELIVERER FROM BONDAGE.

 THOU who breakest every chain,  
Thou who still art ever near,  
Thou with whom disgrace and pain  
Turn to joy and heaven e'en here ;  
Let Thy further judgments fall  
On the Adam strong within,  
Till Thy grace hath freed us all  
From the prison house of sin.

'Tis Thy Father's will toward us,  
Thou shouldst end Thy work at length ;  
Hence in Thee are centred thus  
Perfect wisdom, love, and strength,  
That Thou none shouldst lose of those  
Whom He gave Thee, though they roam  
'Wildered here amid their foes,  
Thou shouldst bring them safely home.

Ah Thou wilt, Thou canst not cease,  
Till Thy perfect work be done ;  
In Thy hands we lie at peace,  
Knowing all Thy love hath won,

Though the world may blindly dream  
We are captives poor and base,  
And the cross's yoke may deem  
Sign of meanness and disgrace.

Look upon our bonds, and see  
How doth all creation groan  
'Neath the yoke of vanity,  
Make Thy full redemption known;  
Still we wrestle, cry, and pray,  
Held in bitter bondage fast,  
Though the soul would break away  
Into higher things at last.

Lord, we do not ask for rest  
For the flesh, we only pray  
Thou wouldst do as seems Thee best,  
Ere yet comes our parting day;  
But our spirit clings to Thee,  
Will not, dare not, let Thee go,  
Until Thou hast set her free  
From the bonds that cause her woe.

Ruler rule, and Conqueror conquer,  
King assert Thy sovereign right,  
Till there be no slavery longer  
Spread the kingdom of Thy might!  
Lead the captives freely out,  
Through the covenant of Thy blood,  
From our dark remorse and doubt,  
For Thou wilt alone our good.

'Tis of our own fault, we own  
We are slaves to self and sloth,  
Yet oh leave us not alone  
In the living death we loathe ;  
Crushed beneath our burden's weight,  
Crying at Thy feet we fall,  
Point the path, though steep and strait,  
Thou didst open once for all.


Ah how dearly were we bought  
Not to serve the world or sin ;  
By the work that Thou hast wrought  
Must Thou make us pure within,—  
Wholly pure and free, in us  
Be Thine image now restored :  
Filled from out Thy fulness thus  
Grace for grace is on us poured.

Draw us to Thy cross, O Love,  
Crucify with Thee whate'er  
Cannot dwell with Thee above,  
Lead us to those regions fair !  
Courage ! long the time may seem,  
Yet His day is coming fast ;  
We shall be like them that dream  
When our freedom dawns at last.

GOTTFRIED ARNOLD. 1697.

## VII.

## THE SAFE REFUGE.

OURAGE, my forely-tempted heart !  
Break through thy woes, forget their  
smart ;  
Come forth and on Thy Bridegroom gaze,  
The Lamb of God, the Fount of grace ;  
Here is thy place !

His arms are open, thither flee !  
There rest and peace are waiting thee,  
The deathless crown of righteousness,  
The entrance to eternal bliss ;  
He gives thee this !

Then combat well, of nought afraid,  
For thus His follower thou art made,  
Each battle teaches thee to fight,  
Each foe to be a braver knight,  
Armed with His might.

If storms of fierce temptation rise,  
Unmoved we'll face the frowning skies ;

If but the heart is true indeed,  
 Christ will be with us in our need,—  
 His own could bleed.

I flee away to Thy dear cross,  
 For hope is there for every loss,  
 Healing for every wound and woe,  
 There all the strength of love I know  
 And feel its glow.

Before the Holy One I fall,  
 The Eternal Sacrifice for all;  
 His death has freed us from our load,  
 Peace on the anguished soul bestowed,  
 Brought us to God.

How then should I go mourning on?  
 I look to Thee,—my fears are gone,  
 With Thee is rest that cannot cease,  
 For Thou hast wrought us full release,  
 And made our peace.


Thy word hath still its glorious powers,  
 The noblest chivalry is ours;  
 O Thou, for whom to die is gain,  
 I bring Thee here my all, oh deign  
 To accept and reign!

J. H. BOHMER. 1704.

## PRAISE AND THANKS- GIVING.

### I.

#### THE CHORUS OF GOD'S THANKFUL CHILDREN.

OW thank we all our God,  
With heart and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things hath done,  
In whom His world rejoices;  
Who from our mother's arms  
Hath blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love,  
And still is ours to-day.

Oh may this bounteous God  
Through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts  
And blessed peace to cheer us;  
And keep us in His grace,  
And guide us when perplex'd,  
And free us from all ills  
In this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God  
The Father, now be given,  
The Son, and Him who reigns  
With them in highest heaven,  
The One eternal God,  
Whom earth and heaven adore,  
For thus it was, is now,  
And shall be evermore !

MARTIN RINCKART. 1636.

## II.

## THE GOODNESS OF GOD.



ALL praise and thanks to God most High,  
The Father of all Love !  
The God who doeth wondrously,  
The God who from above  
My soul with richest solace fills,  
The God who every sorrow stills ;  
Give to our God the glory !

'The host of heaven Thy praises tell,  
All thrones bow down to Thee,  
And all who in Thy shadow dwell,  
In earth and air and sea,  
Declare and laud their Maker's might,  
Whose wisdom orders all things right ;  
Give to our God the glory !

And for the creatures He hath made  
Our God shall well provide ;  
His grace shall be their constant aid,  
Their guard on every side ;

His kingdom ye may surely trust,  
There all is equal, all is just;  
Give to our God the glory!

I fought Him in my hour of need;  
Lord God, now hear my prayer!  
For death He gave me life indeed,  
And comfort for despair;  
For this my thanks shall endless be,  
Oh thank Him, thank Him too with me;  
Give to our God the glory!

The Lord is never far away,  
Nor fundered from His flock;  
He is their refuge and their stay,  
Their peace, their trust, their rock,  
And with a mother's watchful love  
He guides them wheresoe'er they rove  
Give to our God the glory!

And when earth cannot comfort more,  
Nor earthly help avail,  
The Maker comes Himself, whose store  
Of blessing cannot fail,  
And bends on them a Father's eyes  
Whom earth all rest and hope denies:  
Give to our God the glory!

Ah then till life hath reached its bound,  
My God, I'll worship Thee,  
The chorus of Thy praise shall sound  
Far over land and sea;

Oh soul and body now rejoice,  
My heart send forth a gladfome voice :  
Give to our God the glory !

All ye who name Christ's holy Name,  
Give to our God the glory !  
Ye who the Father's power proclaim,  
Give to our God the glory !  
All idols under foot be trod,  
The Lord is God ! The Lord is God !  
Give to our God the glory !

J. J. SCHUTZ. 1673.

## III.

## THE GLORY OF GOD IN CREATION.

**T**O, heaven and earth, and sea and air,  
Their Maker's glory all declare ;  
And thou, my soul, awake and sing,  
To Him Thy praises also bring.

Through Him the glorious Source of Day  
Can break the clouds of night away ;  
The pomp of stars, the moon's soft light,  
Praise Him through all the silent night.

Behold, how He hath everywhere  
Made earth so wondrous rich and fair ;  
The forest dark, the fruitful land,  
All living things do show His hand.

Behold, how through the boundless sky  
The happy birds all swiftly fly ;  
And fire and wind and storm are still  
The ready servants of His will.

Behold the waters' ceaseless flow,  
For ever circling to and fro ;  
The mighty sea, the bubbling well,  
Alike their Maker's glory tell.

My God how wondrously dost Thou  
Unfold Thyself to us e'en now !  
O grave it deeply on my heart  
What I am, and what Thou, Lord, art !

JOACHIM NEANDER. 1679.

•

IV.

THE FAITHFULNESS OF GOD.



WHO so oft in deep distress  
And bitter grief must dwell,  
Will now my God with gladness bless,  
And all His mercies tell ;

Oh hear me then, my God and King,  
While of Thy Holy Name I sing,  
Who doest all things well.

Our fathers who are now no more  
Have praised Thee in their day,  
They taught their children oft of yore  
The wonders of Thy way ;  
Our children shall not rest, and still  
They shall not all the measure fill,  
Nor all exhaust the lay.

To Thee how many thankful songs  
Have gone up ere my days,  
And yet to me a part belongs  
In that great hymn of praise ;  
I too must tell Thy wondrous might,  
And praise Thy covenant just and right,  
And Thine all-conquering grace.

And many a pious heart shall learn  
The songs I make to Thee,  
Far o'er the stars that yonder burn  
Shall rise our harmony,  
Thy Majesty, Thy mighty Hand,  
Shall be reveal'd to every land,  
And all Thy goodness see !

For who is gracious, Lord, as Thou ?  
Who hath so much forgiven ?  
Who still to us would pitying bow  
Who thus with grace have striven ?  
For lost in sins the whole world lies,  
Her ceaseless crimes would scale the skies,  
And cry aloud to heaven.

Yes, it must be a faithful heart  
That thus can love us still,  
Who oft reject the better part,  
And thankless choose the ill ;  
But God can be nought else but good,  
And therefore doth His mercies' flood  
All things with blessing fill.

For this the works that Thou hast made  
Do thank Thee and rejoice,  
Thy saints shall bless Thee for 'Thine aid,  
And make 'Thy ways their choice,  
And tell abroad from hour to hour  
Thy glorious rule, 'Thy kingdom's power,  
With far-resounding voice.

Yes, they shall praise it, till its fame  
Through all the world shall ring,  
And all men learn to know Thy name  
And gifts and service bring ;  
Eternal is Thy glorious throne,  
Thy rule is like Thyself alone,  
O just, Eternal King !

And yet in death or pain or loss,  
The Lord is with us all,  
Lightens the pressure of the cross,  
Upholds us when we fall ;  
He stems the swelling tide of woes,  
And when we sink beneath its blows  
He comes, ere yet we call.

All eyes do wait on Thee, O Lord,  
Who keepest us from dearth,  
Who scatterest rich supplies abroad  
For all the wants of earth ;  
Thou openest oft Thy bounteous hand,  
And all in sea and air and land  
Are fill'd with food and mirth.

Thy thoughts are good, and Thou art kind  
E'en when we think it not ;  
How many an anxious faithless mind  
Sits grieving o'er its lot,  
And frets and pines by day and night,  
As God had lost it out of sight,  
And all its wants forgot !

Ah no ! God ne'er forgets His own,  
His heart is far too true,  
He ever seeks their good alone,  
His love is daily new ;  
And though thou deem that things go ill,  
Yet He is just and holy still  
In all things He can do.

The Lord is ever close and near  
To those who keep His word,  
Whene'er they cry to Him in fear  
Their prayer is surely heard ;  
He knoweth well who loves Him well,  
His love shall yet their clouds dispel,  
And grant the hope deferr'd.


To those who love Him He denies  
No good thing that they seek ;  
He sees their sorrow, counts their sighs,  
And hearkens when they speak,  
And surely frees them from their woes ;  
But those who hate them He o'erthrows,  
And makes their boasting weak.

Yet this is but a little part  
Of what I fain would sing ;  
But daily shall my voice and heart  
New thanks and praises bring ;  
Oh help me all that live and move,  
Help me to speak His faithful love,  
And praise our glorious King.

PAUL GERHARDT. 1606-1676.

## V.

THE HOLINESS OF GOD BROUGHT  
NEAR TO MAN IN CHRIST.

 MIGHTY Spirit! Source whence all  
things sprung!  
O glorious Majesty of perfect Light!  
Hath ever worthy praise to Thee been  
sung,

Or mortal heart endured to meet Thy sight?  
If they who sin have never known  
Must veil their faces at Thy throne,  
Oh how shall I, who am but sin and dust,  
Approach untrembling to the Pure and Just?

The voice of conscience in the soul hath shown  
Some far-off glimpses of Thy holiness,  
And yet more clearly hast Thou made it known  
In Thy dear word that tells us of Thy grace;  
But with all-glorious light divine  
In His face we behold it shine,  
The sinless One, who this dark earth has trod  
To win through sorrow sinners back to God.

The brightness of Thy glory was the Son ;  
Thy law engraven on His heart He wore,  
And on His forehead that all clearly shone  
That Aaron's forehead but in shadow bore ;\*  
And even to death did He obey  
To take the guilt of sin away,  
And made a curse for man, and dying thus,  
He won the power of holiness for us.

Now may Thine image in us shine anew  
In holy righteousness and innocence ;  
Now strengthened by Thy Son a service true  
Thy people render, pure from all offence ;  
But all their light is only dim,  
A shadowed broken light from Him,  
Who that we might be holy bore our load,  
In Whom we dare to meet the Holy God.

J. J. RAMBACH. 1720.

\* Exodus xxviii. 36-38.

## VI.

## TO THE SAVIOUR.

**I**N Thee is gladness  
Amid all sadness,  
Jesus, Sunshine of my heart!  
By Thee are given  
The gifts of heaven,  
Thou the true Redeemer art!  
Our souls 'Thou wakest,  
Our bonds 'Thou breakest,  
Who trusts Thee surely  
Hath built securely,  
He stands for ever:  
Hallelujah.  
Our hearts are pining  
To see Thy shining,  
Dying or living  
To Thee are cleaving,  
Nought can us sever;  
Hallelujah.

If He is ours,  
We fear no powers  
Of earth or Satan, sin or death!


He sees and blesses  
In worst distresses,  
He can change them with a breath !  
Wherefore the story  
Tell of His glory  
With heart and voices ;  
All heaven rejoices  
In Him for ever ;  
Hallelujah.  
We triumph o'er sadness,  
We sing in our gladness,  
We love Thee, we praise Thee,  
And yonder shall raise Thee,  
Glad hymns for ever ;  
Hallelujah.

I. LINDEMANN. 1580-1630.

## VII.

## FOR PUBLIC PEACE.

Written at the close of the Thirty Years' War.

 HANK God it hath refounded,  
The blessed voice of joy and Peace!  
And murder's reign is bounded,  
And spear and sword at last may cease.  
Arise, take down thy lyre,  
My country, and once more  
Uplift in full-toned choir  
Thy happy songs of yore;  
Oh raise thy heart to God and say:  
Thy covenants, Lord, endure,  
Thy mercies do not pass away,  
Thy promises are sure.

For nothing do we merit,  
But fiery wrath and sharpest rod,  
A race of froward spirit,  
Whose shameless sins still mock our God;

And He indeed hath sent us  
Full many a bitter stroke,  
And yet, do we repent us,  
Or learn to bear His yoke?  
Nay, as we were so still we are,  
But God abideth true,  
His help shall still the noise of war,  
The captive's bonds undo.

O welcome day, that brought us  
This precious noble gift of Peace!  
For war hath deeply taught us  
What sorrows come where thou dost cease;  
In thee our God now layeth  
All hope, all happiness;  
Who wounded thee, or slayeth,  
Doth, like a madman, press  
The arrow to his own heart's core,  
And quench with impious hand  
The golden torch of Peace once more,  
That glads at last our land.

This ye could teach us only,  
So dull and hard these hearts of ours,  
Ye homes, now stripp'd and lonely,  
Ye wasted cities, ruin'd towers;  
Ye fields once fairly blooming,  
With golden harvests graced,  
Where forests now are glooming,  
Or spreads a dreary waste;

Ye graves, with corpses piled, where lies  
 Full many a hero brave,  
 Whose like no more shall meet our eyes,  
 Who died, yet could not save.

O man, with bitter mourning  
 Remember now the bygone years,  
 When thou hast met God's warning  
 With careless scoff, not contrite tears;  
 Yet like a loving Father,  
 He lays aside His wrath,  
 And seeks with kindness rather  
 To lure thee to His path;  
 He tries if love may yet constrain  
 The heart that hath withstood  
 His rod,—oh let Him not in vain  
 Now strive with thee for good!

Thou careless world awaken!  
 Awake, awake, all ye that sleep,  
 Ere yet ye be o'ertaken  
 With ruin sudden, swift, and deep!  
 But he who knows Christ liveth,  
 May hope and fear no ill,  
 The Peace that now He giveth  
 Hath deeper meaning still,  
 For He will surely teach us this:  
 "The end is nigh at hand,  
 When ye in perfect rest and peace  
 Before your God shall stand."

## THE LIFE OF FAITH.

## I.

## FAITH.

**F**AITH is a living power from heaven,  
That grasps the promise God hath given,  
A trust that cannot be o'erthrown,  
Fix'd heartily on Christ alone.

Faith finds in Christ whate'er we need  
To save or strengthen us indeed,  
Receives the grace He sends us down,  
And makes us share His cross and crown.

Faith in the conscience worketh peace,  
And bids the mourner's weeping cease;  
By Faith the children's place we claim,  
And give all honour to One Name.

Faith feels the Spirit's kindling breath  
In love and hope that conquer death;  
Faith worketh hourly joy in God,  
And trust, and blesses e'en the rod.

---


We thank Thee then, O God of heaven,  
That Thou to us this faith hast given  
In Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who is  
Our only Fount and Source of bliss;

And from His fulness grant each soul  
The rightful faith's true end and goal,  
The blessedness no foes destroy,  
Eternal love and light and joy.

BOHEMIAN BRETHREN.

## II.

## FAITH THAT WORKETH BY LOVE.

 HO keepeth not God's word, yet faith,  
I know the Lord, is wrong;  
In him is not that blessed faith  
Through which the truth is strong;  
But he who hears and keeps the word,  
Is not of this world, but of God.

The faith His word hath caused to shine  
Will kindle love in thee;  
More wouldst thou know of things divine,  
Deeper thy LOVE must be;  
True faith not only gives thee light,  
But strength to love and do the right.

Jesus hath wash'd away our sin,  
And we are children now;  
Who feels such hope as this within,  
To evil cannot bow;  
Rather with Christ all scorn endure,  
So we be like our Master, pure!


For he doth please the Father well  
Who simply can obey ;  
In him the love of God doth dwell  
Who steadfast keeps His way ;  
A daily active life of love,  
Such fruits a living faith must prove.

He is in God, and God in him,  
Who still abides in love ;  
'Tis love that makes the Cherubim  
Obey and praise above ;  
For God is love, the loveless heart  
Hath in His life and joy no part.

C. F. GELLERT. 1757.

## III.

## THE CHRISTIAN'S TRUST.


 KNOW in whom I put my trust,  
 I know what standeth fast,  
 When all things here dissolve like dust  
 Or smoke before the blast :  
 I know what still endures, howe'er  
 All else may quake and fall,  
 When lies the prudent men ensnare,  
 And dreams the wise enthal.

It is the Dayspring from on high,  
 The adamantine Rock,  
 Whence never storm can make me fly,  
 That fears no earthquake's shock.  
 My Jesus Christ, my sure Defence,  
 My Saviour, and my Light,  
 That shines within, and scatters thence  
 Dark phantoms of the night :

Who, once was borne, betray'd and slain,  
 At evening to the grave ;  
 Whom God awoke, who rose again,  
 A Conqueror strong to save ;

---

Who pardons all my sin, who sends  
His Spirit pure and mild;  
Whose grace my every step befriends,  
Who ne'er forgets His child!

Therefore I know in whom I trust,  
I know what standeth fast,  
When all things form'd of earthly dust  
Are whirling in the blast;  
The terrors of the final foe  
Can rob me not of this,  
And this shall crown me once, I know,  
With never-fading bliss.

E. M. ARNDT.

## IV.

## THE ANCHOR OF THE SOUL.

**L**ORD, all my heart is fix'd on Thee,  
I pray Thee, be not far from me,  
With grace and love divine.  
The whole wide world delights me not,  
Of heaven or earth, Lord, ask I not,  
If only Thou art mine :  
And though my heart be like to break,  
Thou art my trust that nought can shake,  
My portion, and my hidden joy,  
Whose cross could all my bonds destroy ;  
Lord Jesus Christ !  
My God and Lord ! My God and Lord !  
For sake me not who trust Thy word !

Rich are Thy gifts ! 'Twas God that gave  
Body and soul, and all I have  
In this poor life I live ;  
That I may use them to Thy praise,  
And man's true welfare all my days,  
Thy grace I pray Thee give ;  
From all false doctrine keep me, Lord ;  
All lies and malice from me ward ;

---

In every cross uphold Thou me,  
That I may bear it patiently ;  
    Lord Jesus Christ !  
My God and Lord ! My God and Lord !  
In death Thy comfort still afford.


Ah Lord, let Thy dear angels come  
At my last end to bear me home  
    To Paradise for aye ;  
And in its narrow chamber keep  
My body safe in painless sleep  
    Until Thy Judgment Day ;  
And then from death awaken me,  
That these mine eyes with joy may see,  
O Son of God, Thy glorious face,  
My Saviour, and my Fount of Grace !

    Lord Jesus Christ !  
Receive my prayer, receive my prayer,  
Thy love will I for aye declare.

SCHALLING. 1594.

## V.

## THE RESOLVE.

OW at last I end the strife,  
To my God I give my life  
Wholly, with a steadfast mind;  
Sin, I will not hearken more,  
World, I turn from thee, 'tis o'er,  
Not a look I'll cast behind.

Hath my heart been wavering long,  
Have I dallied oft with wrong,  
Now at last I firmly say:  
All my will to this I give,  
Only to my God to live,  
And to serve Him night and day.

Lord, I offer at Thy feet  
All I have most dear and sweet,  
Lo! I keep no secret hoard!  
'Try my heart, and lurks there aught  
False within its inmost thought,  
Take it hence this moment, Lord!

I will shun no toil or wo,  
Where Thou ledest I will go,  
Be my pathway plain or rough ;  
If but every hour may be  
Spent in work that pleases Thee,  
Ah, dear Lord, it is enough !

One thing will I seek alone,  
Nought without me shall be known,  
Sought, or toil'd for, more by me ;  
Strange to earth and all her care,  
Well content with pilgrim's fare,  
Shall my life be hid in Thee.

Thee I make my choice alone,  
Make for ever, Lord, Thine own  
All my powers of soul and mind ;  
Yes, I give myself away,  
Let the covenant stand for aye  
That my hand to-day hath signed.

TERSTEEGEN. 1731.

## VI.

## THE CHRISTIAN RACE.



HE who'd make the prize his own,  
 Runs as swiftly as he can ;  
 He who would attain the crown,  
 Strives in earnest as a man ;  
 Trains himself betimes with care  
 For the conflict he would share,  
 Casts aside whate'er could be  
 Hindrance to His victory.

Lord, Thou biddest me aspire  
 To a prize so high, so grand,  
 That it sets my soul on fire  
 'To be found amid Thy band :  
 Oh how brightly shineth down  
 From Thy heights the starry crown  
 And the throne to victors given,  
 Who for Thee have bravely striven !

Yet it seems I strive in vain,  
 Lord, in pity look on me,  
 Thou my weakness must sustain,  
 Set me now from all things free

---

That could keep me from my goal;  
Come, Thyself prepare my soul,  
Give me joy and strength and life,  
Help me in the race, the strife.

Well our utmost efforts worth  
Is the crown I see afar,  
Though the blinded sons of earth  
Care not for our holy war;  
An exceeding great reward  
Is that crown of grace, my Lord;  
Be Thyself my Strength divine,  
And the prize shall soon be thine.

J. MENTZER. 1704.

## VII.

## THE CHRISTIAN'S JOY.



H, dearest Lord ! to feel that Thou art  
near

Brings deepest peace, and hushes every  
fear ;

To see Thy smile, to hear Thy gracious voice,  
Makes soul and body inwardly rejoice  
With praise and thanks.

We cannot see as yet Thy glorious face,  
Not yet our eyes behold its love and grace,  
But Thee our inmost soul can surely feel,  
Oh clearly, Lord, canst Thou Thyself reveal,  
Though all unseen !

Oh well for him who ever day and night  
Should only seek to feed on Thee aright !  
In him a well of joy for ever springs,  
And all day long his heart is glad and sings :  
Who is like Thee ?

For Thou dost love to meet us as a Friend,  
Our comfort, healing, hope, and joy to send ;

Patient to pity and to calm our woe,  
And daily to forgive us all we owe,  
Of Thy rich grace.

Whene'er we weep soon bid our tears to cease,  
And make us feel how strong Thy love and peace;  
And let the soul see Thee within, and learn  
From need and love alike to Thee to turn  
With ceaseless gaze.

A warm and loving heart, a childlike mind,  
Through every change mayst Thou within us find;  
The comfort of Thy holy sorrows keep  
Our hearts at rest, in peace most calm and deep,  
In joy or woe!

So shall we all, until Thy heaven we see,  
Like children evermore be glad in Thee,  
Though many a time the sudden tear may start,—  
If only Thou wilt touch the throbbing heart  
And still is pain!

Thou reachest down to us Thy wounded hand,  
And at Thy cross, dear Lord, ashamed we stand,  
Remembering all Thy truth through weal and woe,  
Until our eyes with tears must overflow  
Of thanks and praise.

CHRISTIAN GREGOR, 1778,

## VIII.

## UNDER CLOUDS.



ERE behold me, as I cast me  
 At Thy throne, O glorious King!  
 Tears fast thronging, childlike longing,  
 Son of Man, to Thee I bring.  
 Let me find Thee—let me find Thee!  
 Me a poor and worthless thing.

Look upon me, Lord, I pray Thee,  
 Let Thy Spirit dwell in mine;  
 Thou hast sought me, Thou hast bought me,  
 Only Thee to know I pine;  
 Let me find Thee—let me find Thee!  
 Take my heart and grant me Thine.

Nought I ask for, nought I strive for,  
 But Thy grace so rich and free,  
 That Thou givest whom Thou lovest,  
 And who truly cleave to Thee;  
 Let me find Thee—let me find Thee!  
 He hath all things who hath Thee.

Earthly treasure, mirth and pleasure,  
Glorious name, or richest hoard,  
Are but weary, void and dreary,  
To the heart that longs for God!  
Let me find Thee—let me find Thee!  
I am ready, mighty Lord.

JOACHIM NEANDER. 1679.

## IX.

## ASPIRATION.



P! yes, upward to thy gladness  
 Rise, my heart, and soul, and mind!  
 Cast, oh cast away thy sadness,  
 Rise where thou thy Lord canst find.  
 He is thy home,  
 And thy life alone is He;  
 Hath the world no place for thee,  
 With Him is room.

On, still onward, mounting higher  
 On the wings of faith to Him!  
 On, still onward, ever higher,  
 Till the mournful earth grows dim!  
 God is Thy Rock;  
 Christ thy Champion cannot fail thee,  
 Howsoever thy foes assail thee,  
 Fear not their shock.

Firm, yes firmly, ever cleaving  
 Unto Christ the strong and true,  
 All, yes all, to God still leaving,  
 For His love is daily new,

Be steadfast here ;  
 Soon thy foes shall be o'erthrown,  
 Since He wills thy good alone,  
 Be of good cheer.

Hide thee, in His chamber hide thee,  
 Christ hath open'd now the door ;  
 Tell Him all that doth betide thee,  
 All thy sorrows there outpour ;  
 He hears thy cry ;  
 Men may hate thee and deceive thee,  
 But He cannot, will not leave thee,  
 He still is nigh.

High, oh high, o'er all things earthy,  
 Raise thy thoughts, my soul, to heaven ;  
 One alone of thee is worthy,  
 All thou hast to Him be given ;  
 Thy Lord He is  
 Who so truly pleads to have thee,  
 Who in love hath died to save thee ;  
 Then thou art His.

Up then, upwards ! seek thou only  
 For the things that are above ;  
 Sin thou hatest, earth is lonely,  
 Rise to Him whom thou dost love,—  
 There art thou blest ;  
 All things here must change and die,  
 Only with our Lord on high  
 Is perfect rest.

## X.

## SONG OF THE CHRISTIAN PILGRIM.



PILGRIM here I wander,  
On earth have no abode,  
My fatherland is yonder,  
My home is with my God.

For here I journey to and fro,  
There in eternal rest  
Will God His gracious gift bestow  
On all the toil-oppressed.

For what hath life been giving,  
From youth up till this day,  
But constant toil and striving?  
Far back as thought can stray,  
How many a day of toil and care,  
How many a night of tears,  
Hath passed in grief that none could share,  
In lonely anxious fears!

How many a storm hath lightened  
And thundered round my path!  
And winds and rains have frightened  
My heart with fiercest wrath:

And cruel envy, hatred, scorn,  
Have darkened oft my lot,  
And patiently reproach I've borne,  
Though I deserved it not.

Then through this life of dangers  
I onward take my way ;  
But in this land of strangers  
I do not think to stay,  
But onward on the road I fare  
That leads me to my home,  
My Father's comfort waits me there,  
When I have overcome.

Ah yes, my home is yonder,  
Where all the angelic bands  
Praise Him with awe and wonder,  
In whose Almighty hands  
All things that are and shall be, lie,  
By Him upholden still,  
Who casteth down and lifts on high  
At His most holy will.

That home have I desired,  
'Tis there I would be gone ;  
Till I am well-nigh tired,  
O'er earth I've journeyed on ;  
The longer here I roam, I find  
The less of real joy  
That e'er could please or fill my mind,  
For all hath some alloy.

The lodging is too cheerless,  
The sorrow is too much ;  
Ah come, my heart is fearless,  
Release it with Thy touch,  
When Thy heart wills, and make an end  
Of all this pilgrimage,  
And with Thine arm and strength defend,  
When foes against me rage.

Where now my spirit stayeth  
Is not her true abode,  
This earthly house decayeth,  
And she will drop its load,  
When comes the hour to leave beneath  
What now I use and have ;  
And when I've yielded up my breath  
Earth gives me but a grave.

But Thou, my Joy and gladness,  
O Thou, my Life and Light,  
Wilt raise me from this sadness,  
This long tempestuous night,  
Into the perfect gladsome day,  
Where bathed in joy divine,  
Among Thy saints, and bright as they,  
I too shall ever shine.


There shall I dwell for ever,  
Not as a guest alone,  
With those who cease there never  
To worship at Thy throne ;

There in my heritage I rest,  
From baser things set free,  
And join the chorus of the blest  
For ever, Lord, to Thee!

PAUL GERHARDT. 1606-1676.

## XI.

## LONGING FOR HOME.

OW the pearly gates unfold,  
O Thou Joy of highest heaven,  
Who ere earth was made, of old  
Light of light for light wast given !  
Hasten, Lord, and quickly come,  
Bring the bride Thou hast betrothed,  
In Thine own pure radiance clothed,  
Safe to Thine eternal home,  
Where no more the night of sin  
Spreads its fear and gloom within.

All my spirit thirsts to see,  
Lord, Thy face unveiled and bright ;  
And to stand from sin set free,  
Spotless Lamb, amid Thy light.  
But I leave it,—Thou dost well,  
And my heaven is here and now,  
Daystar of my soul, if Thou  
Wilt but deign in me to dwell ;  
For without Thee could there be  
Joy in heaven itself for me ?

Bliss from Thee my soul hath won,  
Spite of darkly threatening ill ;

And my heart calls Thee its Sun,  
And the sea of care grows still  
In the shining of Thy smile ;  
And Thy love's all-quickening ray  
Chafes night and pain away,  
That my heart grows light the while ;  
Heavenly joys in Thee are mine,  
Far from Thee I mourn and pine.

Graft me into Thee for ever,  
Tree of Life, that I may grow  
Stronger heavenward, drooping never  
For the sharpest storms that blow,  
Bearing fruits of faith and truth ;  
Then transplant me out of time  
Into that eternal clime  
Where I shall renew my youth,  
When earth's wither'd leaves shall bloom  
Fresh in beauty from the tomb.


Life, to whom as to my Head  
I unite me, through my soul  
Now Thy quickening life-stream shed,  
And Thy love's warm current roll,  
Freshening all with strength and grace ;  
Be Thou mine, I am Thine own,  
Here and ever Thine alone,  
All my hope in Thee I place ;  
Heaven and earth are nought to me,  
Save, oh Life of life, with Thee !

## SONGS OF THE CROSS.

## I.

## QUEEN MARIA OF HUNGARY'S SONG.

COMPOSED most probably in 1526, when she was compelled to flee from Buda on account of her adherence to the Reformed Doctrine, after the Battle of Mohacz; in which her husband and the flower of the Hungarian nobility fell in defending their country against the Turks.

 AN I my fate no more withstand,  
Nor 'scape the hand  
That for my faith would grieve me;  
This is my strength, that well I know  
In weal or woe  
God's love the world must leave me.  
God is not far, though hidden now,  
He soon shall rise and make them bow  
Who of His word bereave me.

Judge as ye will may cause this hour,  
Yours is the power,

---

God bids me strive no longer ;  
I know what mightiest seems to-day  
    Shall pass away,  
Time than your rule is stronger.  
The Eternal Good I rather choose,  
And fearless all for this I lose ;  
God help me thus to conquer !

All has its day, the proverb faith :  
    This is my faith,  
Thou, Christ, wilt be beside me,  
And look on all this pain of mine  
    As were it Thine,  
When sharpest woes betide me ;  
Must I then tread this path—I yield ;  
World, as thou wilt, God is my shield,  
And He will rightly guide me !

## II.

## IN OUTWARD AND INWARD DISTRESS.

FROM the Dark Times of the Thirty Years'  
War.



CHRIST, Thou bright and Morning Star,  
Now shed Thy light abroad ;  
Shine on us from Thy throne afar  
In this dark place, dear Lord,  
With Thy pure glorious word.

O Jesus, Comfort of the poor,  
I lift my heart to Thee  
I know Thy mercies still endure  
And Thou wilt pity me ;  
I trust alone to Thee.

I cannot rest, I may not sleep,  
No joy or peace I know,  
My soul is torn with anguish deep,  
And fears a deeper woe ;  
O Christ, Thy pity show !

---

For Thou didst suffer for my soul,  
Her burdens to remove ;  
Oh make me through Thy sorrows whole,  
Refresh me with Thy love ;  
Lord, help me from above.

Then Jesus, glory, honour, praise,  
I'll ever sing to Thee ;  
Increase my faith that Thou wilt raise  
Me once where I shall see  
Eternal joys with Thee !

ANON.

## III.

THE ONLY REFUGE IN TIME OF  
TROUBLE.

**W**HEN in the hour of utmost need  
We know not where to look for aid,  
When days and nights of anxious thought  
Nor help nor counsel yet have brought :

Then this our comfort is alone,  
That we may meet before Thy throne,  
And cry, O faithful God, to Thee  
For rescue from our misery :

To Thee may raise our hearts and eyes,  
Repenting sore with bitter sighs,  
And seek Thy pardon for our sin,  
And respite from our griefs within :

For Thou hast promised graciously  
To hear all those who cry to Thee,  
Through Him whose Name alone is great,  
Our Saviour and our Advocate.

---

And thus we come, O God, to-day,  
And all our woes before Thee lay,  
For tried, forsaken, lo! we stand,  
Perils and foes on every hand.


Ah hide not for our sins Thy face,  
Absolve us through Thy boundless grace,  
Be with us in our anguish still,  
Free us at last from every ill.

That so with all our hearts may we  
Once more with joy give thanks to Thee,  
And walk obedient to Thy word,  
And now and ever praise the Lord.

PAUL EBER. 1511-1569.

## IV.

UNDER A HEAVY PRIVATE CROSS OR  
BEREAVEMENT.

 FAITHFUL God! O pitying Heart,  
 Whose goodness hath no end;  
 I know this cross with all its smart  
 Thy hand alone doth send!

Yes, Lord, I know it is Thy love,  
 Not wrath or hatred bids me prove  
 The load 'neath which I bend.

'Twas ever wont with Thee, my God,  
 To chasten oft a son;  
 He whom Thou lovest feels Thy rod,  
 Tears flow ere joy is won,  
 Thou ledest us through darkest pain  
 Back to the joyous light again;  
 Thus ever hast Thou done.

For e'en the Son Thou most dost love  
 Here trod the path of woe;  
 Ere He might reach His throne above  
 He bore the cross below;  
 Through anguish, scorn, and poverty,  
 Through bitterest death He passed, that we  
 The bliss of heaven might know.

And if the pure and sinless One  
Could thus to sorrow bow,  
Shall I who so much ill have done  
Resist the cross? O Thou  
In whom doth perfect patience shine,  
Whoe'er would fain be counted Thine  
Must wear Thy likeness now.

Yet, Father, each fresh aching heart  
Will question in its woe,  
If Thou canst send such bitter smart  
And yet no anger know?  
How long the hours beneath the cross!  
How hard to learn that love and loss  
From one sole Fountain flow!

But what I cannot, Thou true Good,  
Oh work Thyself in me;  
Nor ever let my trials' flood  
O'erwhelm my faith in Thee;  
Keep me from every murmur, Lord,  
And make me steadfast in Thy word,  
My tower of refuge be!

If I am weak, Thy tender care  
Help me to face each ill!  
With ceaseless cries and tears and prayer  
The long sad hours I'll fill;  
The heart that yet can hope and trust,  
And cry to Thee, though from the dust,  
Is all unconquered still!

O Thou who diedst to give us life,  
Full well to Thee is known  
The cross, and all the inner strife  
Of those who weep alone,  
And 'neath their burden well-nigh faint;  
The aching heart's unspoken plaint  
Finds echo in Thine own.

Ah Christ, do Thou within me speak,  
For Thou canst comfort best;  
The tower and stronghold of the weak,  
The weary wanderer's rest,  
Our shadow in the noon-day hours,  
And when the tempest round us lowers,  
Our shelter safe and blest!

O Holy Spirit, sent of God,  
In whom all gladness lies,  
Refresh my soul, lift off her load,  
From Thee all sadness flies;  
Thou know'st the glories yet to come,  
The joy, the solace, of that home,  
Where we shall one day rise.

There in Thy presence we shall see  
Glories beyond our ken;  
'The cross known here to none but Thee  
Shall turn to gladness then;  
There smiles for all our tears are given,  
And for our woes the joys of heaven;  
Lord, I believe! Amen!

PAUL GERHARDT. 1606-1676.

## V.

## THE ONE TRUE FRIEND.



H God, my days are dark indeed,  
How oft this aching heart must bleed,  
The narrow way, how filled with pain  
That I must pass ere heaven I gain!

How hard to teach this flesh and blood  
To seek alone the Eternal Good!

Ah whither now for comfort turn?  
For Thee, my Jesus, do I yearn,  
In Thee have I, howe'er distressed,  
Found ever counsel, aid, and rest;  
I cannot all forsaken be  
While still my heart can trust in Thee.

Jesus, my only God and Lord,  
What sweetness in Thy name is stored!  
So dark and hopeless is no grief  
But Thy sweet Name can bring relief,  
So keen no sorrows' rankling dart  
But Thy sweet Name can heal my heart.

The world can show no truth like Thine,  
And therefore will I not repine ;  
I know Thou wilt forsake me not,  
Thy truth is fixed, though dark my lot ;  
Thou art my Shepherd, and Thy sheep  
From every real harm Thou wilt keep.

Jesus, my boast, my light, my joy,  
The treasure nought can e'er destroy,  
No words, no song that I can frame  
Speak half the sweetness of Thy name ;  
They only all its power shall prove  
Whose hearts have learnt Thy faith and love.

How many a time I've sadly said,  
Far better were it I were dead,  
Far better ne'er the light to see,  
If I had not this joy in Thee ;  
For he who hath not Thee in faith,  
His very life is merely death.

Jesus, my Bridegroom, and my crown,  
If Thou but smile, the world may frown,  
In Thee lie depths of joy untold,  
Far richer than her richest gold ;  
Whene'er I do but think of Thee,  
Thy dews drop down and solace me.

Whene'er I hope in Thee, my Friend,  
Thy comfort and Thy peace descend ;  
Whene'er in grief I pray and sing

---

I feel new courage in me spring ;  
Thy Spirit witnesseth that this  
Is foretaste of the eternal blifs.

Then while I live this life of care  
The cros for Thee I'll gladly bear ;  
Grant me a patient willing mood,  
I know that it shall work my good ;  
Help me to do my task aright,  
That it may stand before Thy fight.

Let me this flesh and blood controul,  
From sin and shame preserve my soul,  
And keep me steadfast in the faith,  
Then I am Thine in life and death ;  
Jefus, Consoler, bend to me,  
Ah would I were e'en now with Thee !

CONRAD HOJER. 1584.

## VI.

UNDER THE PRESSURE OF CARE OR  
POVERTY.

WRITTEN most probably either during the great Famine in Nuremburg in 1552, or the time of the Siege in 1561.

**H**Y art thou thus cast down, my heart?  
 Why troubled, why dost mourn apart,  
     O'er nought but earthly wealth?  
 Trust in thy God, be not afraid,  
 He is thy Friend who all things made.

Dost think thy prayers He doth not heed?  
 He knows full well what thou dost need,  
     And heaven and earth are His;  
 My Father and my God, who still  
 Is with my soul in every ill.

Since 'Thou my God and Father art,  
 I know Thy faithful loving heart  
     Will ne'er forget 'Thy child.  
 See I am poor, I am but dust,  
 On earth is none whom I can trust.

The rich man in his wealth confides,  
 But in my God my trust abides;  
     Laugh as ye will, I hold

This one thing fast that He hath taught,—  
Who trusts in God shall want for nought.

Yes, Lord, Thou art as rich to-day  
As Thou hast been and shalt be aye,  
I rest on Thee alone ;  
Thy riches to my soul be given,  
And 'tis enough for earth and heaven

What here may shine I all resign,  
If the eternal crown be mine,  
That through Thy bitter death  
Thou gainedst, O Lord Christ, for me,  
For this, for this, I cry to Thee !

All wealth, all glories, here below,  
The best that this world can bestow,  
Silver or gold or lands,  
But for a little time is given,  
And helps us not to enter heaven.

I thank Thee, Christ, Eternal God,  
That Thou hast taught me by Thy word  
To know this truth and Thee ;  
O grant me also steadfastness  
Thy heavenly kingdom not to miss.

Praise, honour, thanks, to Thee be brought,  
For all things in and for me wrought  
By Thy great mercy, Christ.  
This one thing only still I pray,  
Oh cast me ne'er from Thee away.

## VII.

## THE RESTING-PLACE AMID CHANGES.



All things hang on our possessing  
 God's free love and grace and blessing,  
 Though all earthly wealth depart ;  
 He who God for his hath taken,  
 'Mid the changing world unshaken  
 Keeps a free heroic heart.

He who hitherto hath fed me,  
 And to many a joy hath led me,  
 Is and shall be ever mine ;  
 He who did so gently school me,  
 He who still doth guide and rule me,  
 Will not leave me now to pine.

Shall I weary me with fretting  
 O'er vain trifles, and regretting  
 Things that never can remain ?  
 I will strive but that to win me  
 That can shed true rest within me,  
 Rest the world must seek in vain.

When my heart with longing sickens,  
Hope again my courage quickens,  
    For my wish shall be fulfill'd,  
If it please His love most tender ;  
Life and soul I all surrender  
    Unto Him on whom I build.


Well He knows how best to grant me  
All the longing hopes that haunt me,  
    All things have their proper day ;  
I would dictate to Him never,  
As God wills, so be it ever,  
    When He wills, I will obey.

If on earth He bids me linger,  
He will guide me with His finger  
    Through the years that now look dim ;  
All that earth has fleets and changes  
As a river onward ranges,  
    But I rest in peace on Him.

ANON. in a Nuremberg Hymn-  
book of 1676.

## VIII.

## REST IN THE LORD.

Y God, in Thee all fulness lies,  
All want in me from Thee apart ;  
In Thee my soul hath endless joys,  
In me is but an aching heart ;  
Poor as the poorest here I pine,  
In Thee a heavenly kingdom's mine.

Thou seest whatsoe'er I need,  
Thou seest it, and pitiest me ;  
Thy swift compassions hither speed,  
Ere yet my woes are told to Thee ;  
Thou hearest, Father, ere we cry,  
Shall I not still before Thee lie ?

I leave to Thee whate'er is mine,  
And in Thy will I calmly rest ;  
I know that richest gifts are Thine,  
Thou canst and Thou wilt make me blest,  
For Thou hast promised, and our Lord  
Will never break His promised word.

---

Thou lovest me, Father, with the love  
    Wherewith Thou lovedst Christ Thy Son,  
And so a brightness from above  
    Still glads me though my tears may run,  
For in Thy love I find and know  
What all the world could ne'er bestow.

Then I can let the world go by,  
    And yet be still and rest in Thee,  
I sit, I walk, I stand, I lie,  
    Thou ever watchest over me,  
And when the yoke is pressing sore  
I think, my God lives evermore !

ANON.

## IX.

## THE. CHRISTIAN'S CONFIDENCE.

PROBABLY by Joachim Magdeburg, a Pastor who died in 1560—long a favourite Hymn at death-beds; said to be found in a stained glass window in Nordhausen with the date 1592, printed at latest 1598.




HO puts his trust in God most just  
 Hath built his house securely;  
 He who relies on Jesus Christ,  
 Heaven shall be his most surely:  
 Then fix'd on Thee my trust shall be,  
 For Thy truth cannot alter;  
 While mine Thou art, not death's worst smart  
 Shall make my courage falter.

Though fiercest foes my course oppose,  
 A dauntless front I'll show them;  
 My champion Thou, Lord Christ, art now,  
 Who soon shalt overthrow them!  
 And if but Thee I have in me  
 With Thy good gifts and Spirit,  
 Nor death nor hell, I know full well,  
 Shall hurt me, through Thy merit.

I rest me here without a fear,  
By Thee shall all be given  
That I can need, O faithful God,  
For this life or for heaven.  
O make me true, my heart renew,  
My soul and flesh deliver !  
Lord, hear my prayer, and in Thy care  
Keep me in peace for ever.

## X.

## CHILDLIKE SUBMISSION.

HAT pleases God, O pious soul,  
Accept with joy, though thunders roll  
And tempests lower on every side,  
Thou knowest nought can thee betide  
But pleases God.

The best will is our Father's will,  
And we may rest there calm and still,  
Oh make it hour by hour thine own,  
And wish for nought but that alone  
Which pleases God.

His thought is aye the wisest thought,  
How oft man's wisdom comes to nought,  
Mistake or weakness in it lurks,  
It brings forth ill, and seldom works  
What pleases God.

His mind is aye the gentlest mind,  
His will and deeds are ever kind,  
He blesses when against us speaks  
The evil world, that rarely seeks  
What pleases God.

His heart is aye the truest heart,  
He bids all woe and harm depart,  
Defending, shielding day and night  
The man who knows and loves aright  
What pleases God.

He governs all things here below,  
In Him lie all our weal and woe,  
He bears the world within His hand,  
And so to us bear sea and land  
What pleases God.

And o'er His little flock He yearns,  
And when to evil ways it turns,  
The Father's rod oft smiteth fore,  
Until it learns to do once more  
What pleases God.

What most would profit us He knows,  
And ne'er denies aught good to those  
Who with their utmost strength pursue  
The right, and only care to do  
What pleases God.

If this be so, then World, from me  
Keep if thou wilt, what pleases thee ;  
But thou, my soul, be well content  
With God and all things He hath sent ;  
As pleases God.

And must thou suffer here and there,  
Cling but the firmer to His care,

For all things are beneath His sway,  
And must in very truth obey  
What pleases God.

True faith will grasp His mercy fast,  
And hope bring patience at the last,  
Then both within thy heart enshrine,  
So shall the heritage be thine  
That pleases God.

To thee for ever shall be given  
A kingdom and a crown in heaven,  
And there shall be fulfill'd in thee,  
And thou shalt taste and hear and see  
What pleases God.

PAUL GERHARDT. 1653.

## XI.

## THE QUIET HOPING HEART.

WRITTEN for the comfort of a Sick Friend, who set it to Music, and on his recovery frequently caused it to be sung before his house by the School-Choir.



HATE'ER, my God ordains is right,

His will is ever just ;

Howe'er He order now my cause

I will be still and trust.

He is my God,

Though dark my road,

He holds me that I shall not fall,

Wherefore to Him I leave it all.

Whate'er my God ordains is right,

He never will deceive ;

He leads me by the proper path,

And so to Him I cleave,

And take content

What He hath sent ;

His hand can turn my griefs away,

And patiently I wait His day.

Whate'er my God ordains is right,

He taketh thought for me,

The cup that my Physician gives

No poison'd draught can be.

But medicine due ;  
For God is true,  
And on that changeless truth I build,  
And all my heart with hope is filled.

Whate'er my God ordains is right,  
Though I the cup must drink  
That bitter seems to my faint heart,  
I will not fear nor shrink ;  
Tears pass away  
With dawn of day,  
Sweet comfort yet shall fill my heart,  
And pain and sorrow shall depart.

Whate'er my God ordains is right,  
My Light my Life is He,  
Who cannot will me aught but good,  
I trust Him utterly ;  
For well I know,  
In joy or woe,  
We once shall see as sunlight clear  
How faithful was our Guardian here.

Whate'er my God ordains is right,  
Here will I take my stand ;  
Though sorrow, need, or death make earth  
For me a desert land,  
My Father's care  
Is around me there,  
He holds me that I shall not fall,  
And so to Him I leave it all.

## XII.

## THE COURAGE OF PERFECT TRUST.

**H**EREFORE should I grieve and pine?  
Is not Christ the Lord still mine?  
Who can fever me from Him?  
Who can rob me of the heaven  
Which the Son of God hath given  
Unto faith though weak and dim?

Naked, helpless, was I born  
When my earliest breath was drawn,  
Naked must I wander forth,  
As a shadow flits away  
At the coming of the day,  
Bearing nought with me from earth.

Soul and body, life and goods,  
Are not mine, are only God's,  
Given me by His loving will;  
Would He take back aught of His,  
Let Him take it, not for this  
Shall my song of praise be still.

Sendeth He some crosses to bear,  
Cometh sorrow, need, or care,

Shall it all my peace destroy ?  
He who sends can end it too,  
Well He knows in season due,  
How to turn my griefs to joy.

Many a day of happiness  
Hath He sent who loves to bless,  
Shall I not bear aught for God ?  
He is kind, we know that He  
Ne'er forsakes us utterly,  
Love lies hidden in His rod.

What is there my foes can do,  
Though they be nor weak nor few,  
Save to scorn and mock my woe ?  
Let them laugh, and let them mock,  
God my Saviour and my Rock  
Soon shall all their schemes o'erthrow.

With a glad and fearless mien  
Should a Christian man be seen,  
Wherefoe'er be cast his lot ;  
Yea, though death seem close at hand,  
Calm and quiet let him stand,  
And his spirit tremble not.

Him no death has power to kill,  
But from many a dreaded ill  
Bears his spirit safe away ;  
Shuts the door of bitter woes,  
Opens yon bright path that glows  
With the light of perfect day.

There in deepest joy my heart  
Shall be healed from all the smart  
Of the wounds that pierced it here ;  
Here can no true good be found,  
Seeming goods that here abound  
In a moment disappear.

Wealth that this world can command,  
Is it aught but barren land,  
Bringing cares and troubles fore ?  
There, there are the gifts unpriced  
Where my Shepherd Jesus Christ  
Shall refresh me evermore.


Fount of Joy, my Lord Divine,  
Thine I am, and Thou art mine,  
Nought can part my soul from Thee ;  
I am Thine, for Thou didst give  
Once Thy life that I might live,  
Dearly didst Thou purchase me.

Thou art mine, because my heart  
Ne'er will let Thee more depart,  
Clings to Thee her joy, her light ;  
Bring me, bring me to that place  
Where, enclasped in Thine embrace,  
Love at last is blest with sight.

PAUL GERHARDT. 1653.

## XIII.

## THE SUFFICIENCY OF GOD.

EEMS it in my anguish lone,  
As though God forfook His own,  
Yet I hold this knowledge fast,  
God will surely help at last.

He denieth not His aid  
Though awhile it be delayed ;  
Though it come not oft with speed,  
It will surely come at need.

As a father not too soon  
Grants his child the longed-for boon,  
So our God gives when He will ;  
Wait His leisure and be still.

I can rest in thoughts of Him,  
When all courage else grew dim,  
For I know my soul shall prove  
His is more than father's love.

Would the powers of ill affright,  
I can smile at all their might ;

Or the cross is pressing fore,  
God, my God, lives evermore !

Man may hate me causelessly,  
Man may plot to ruin me,  
Foes my heart may pierce and rend ;  
God in heaven is still my Friend.

Earth may all her gifts deny,  
Safe my treasure still on high,  
And if heaven at last be mine,  
All things else I can resign.

I renounce thee willingly,  
World, I hate what pleases thee,  
Baneful every gift of thine,  
Only be my God still mine.

Ah Lord, if but Thee I have  
Nought of other good I crave,  
Bright is even death's dark road,  
If but Thou art there, my God.

C. TITIVS. 1641-1703.

## THE FINAL CONFLICT AND HEAVEN.

### I.

#### THE UNCERTAINTY OF LIFE.



KNOW my end must surely come,  
But know not when, or where, or how,  
It may be I shall hear my doom  
To-night, to-morrow, nay, or now,  
Ere yet this present hour is fled,  
This living body may be dead.

Lord Jesus, let me daily die,  
And at the last Thy presence give,  
Then Death his utmost power may try,  
He can but make me truly live,  
Then welcome my last hour shall be,  
When, where, and how it pleases Thee.

S. FRANCK. 1711.

II.

PREPARATION FOR DEATH.

SAID to be written on occasion of the sudden death of Duke George of Saxe-Eisenach, while hunting.

**W**HO knows how near my end may be?  
Time speeds away, and Death comes  
on;

How swiftly, ah! how suddenly,  
May Death be here, and Life be gone!  
My God, for Jesu's sake I pray  
Thy peace may blest my dying day.

The world that smiled when morn was come .  
May change for me ere close of eve;  
So long as earth is still my home  
In peril of my death I live;  
My God, for Jesu's sake I pray  
Thy peace may blest my dying day.

Teach me to ponder oft my end,  
And ere the hour of death appears,  
To cast my soul on Christ her Friend,  
Nor spare repentant cries and tears;  
My God, for Jesu's sake I pray  
Thy peace may blest my dying day.

And let me now so order all,  
That ever ready I may be  
To say with joy, whate'er befall,  
Lord, do Thou as Thou wilt with me ;  
My God, for Jesu's sake I pray  
Thy peace may bless my dying day.

Let heaven to me be ever sweet,  
And this world bitter let me find,  
That I, 'mid all its toil and heat,  
May keep eternity in mind ;  
My God, for Jesu's sake I pray  
Thy peace may bless my dying day.

O Father, cover all my sins  
With Jesu's merits, who alone  
The pardon that I covet wins,  
And makes His long-sought rest my own ;  
My God, for Jesu's sake I pray  
Thy peace may bless my dying day.

His sorrows and His cross I know  
Make death-beds soft, and light the grave,  
They comfort in the hour of woe,  
They give me all I fain would have ;  
My God, for Jesu's sake I pray  
Thy peace may bless my dying day.

From Him can nought my soul divide,  
Nor life nor death can part us now ;  
I lay my hand upon His side,  
And say, My Lord and God art Thou ;

My God, for Jesu's sake I pray  
Thy peace may blefs my dying day.

In holy baptifm long ago,  
I joined me to the living Vine,  
Thou lovest me in Him, I know,  
In Him Thou dost accept me Thine;  
My God, for Jesu's sake I pray  
Thy peace may blefs my dying day.

And I have eaten of His flesh  
And drunk His blood,—nor can I be  
Forfaken now, nor doubt afresh,  
I am in Him and He in me;  
My God, for Jesu's sake I pray  
Thy peace may blefs my dying day.

Then death may come or tarry yet,  
I know in Christ I perifh not,  
He never will His own forget,  
He gives me robes without a fpot;  
My God, for Jesu's sake I pray  
Thy peace may blefs my dying day.

And thus I live in God at peace,  
And die without a thought of fear,  
Content to take what God decrees,  
For through His Son my faith is clear,  
His grace fhall be in death my ftay,  
And peace fhall blefs my dying day.

EMILIA JULIANA, Countefs of Schwarzburg  
Rudolftadt. 1686.

## III.

## A WEARY PILGRIM'S SONG.



WORLD, farewell! Of thee I'm tired,  
Now toward heaven my way I take;  
There is peace the long-desired,  
Lofty calm that nought can break;  
World, with thee is war and strife,  
Thou with cheating hopes art rife,  
But in heaven is no alloy,  
Only peace and love and joy.

When I reach that home of gladness,  
I shall feel no more this load,  
Feel no sickness, want, or sadness,  
Resting in the arms of God.  
In the world woes follow fast,  
And a bitter death comes last,  
But in heaven shall nought destroy  
Endless peace and love and joy

What are earthly joys? a weary  
Chase of mist, or wind-borne foam!  
On this desert black and dreary  
Sins and vices have their home;

Thine, O World, are war and strife,  
Mocking pleasures, dying life ;  
But in heaven is no annoy,  
Only peace and love and joy.

Oh the music and the singing  
Of the host redeemed by love !  
Oh the hallelujahs ringing  
Through the halls of light above !  
Thine, O World, the scornful sneer,  
Misery thy reward, and fear ;  
But in heaven is no annoy,  
Only peace and love and joy.

Here is nought but care and mourning,  
Comes a joy, it will not stay ;  
Fairly shines the sun at dawning,  
Night will soon o'ercloud the day ;  
World, with thee we weep and pine,  
Gnawing care and grief are thine ;  
But in heaven is no alloy,  
Only peace and love and joy.

Onwards then ! not long I wander,  
Ere my Saviour comes for me,  
And with Him abiding yonder  
All His glory I shall see ;  
For there's nought but sorrow here,  
Toil and pain and many a fear,  
But in heaven is no annoy,  
Only peace and love and joy.

Well for him whom death has landéd  
Safely on yon blessed shore,  
Where in joyful worship banded,  
Sing the faithful evermore ;  
For the world hath strife and war,  
All her works and hopes they mar,  
But in heaven is no annoy  
Only peace and love and joy.


Time, thou speedest on but slowly,  
Hours, how tardy is your pace,  
Ere with Him the High and Holy  
I hold converse face to face ;  
World, with partings thou art rife,  
Filled with tears and storms and strife  
But in heaven can nought destroy  
Endless peace and love and joy.

Therefore will I now prepare me,  
That my work may stand His doom,  
And when all is sinking round me,  
I may hear not "Go"—but "Come!"  
World, the voice of grief is here,  
Outward seeming, care, and fear,  
But in heaven is no alloy,  
Only peace and love and joy!

J. G. ALBINUS. 1652.

## IV.

## IN TIME OF DANGEROUS DUTY.

Y cause is God's, and I am still,  
Let Him do with me as He will ;  
Whether for me the fight is won,  
Or scarce begun,  
I ask no more—His will be done !

My sins are more than I can bear,  
Yet not for this will I despair,  
I know to death and to the grave  
The Father gave  
His dearest Son, that He might save.

In Him my Saviour I abide,  
I know for all my sins He died,  
And risen again to work my good,  
The burning flood  
Hath quenched with His most precious blood.

To Him I live and die alone,  
Death cannot part Him from His own ;  
Living or dying I am His  
Who only is  
Our comfort, and our gate of bliss.

This is my solace, day by day,  
When snares and death beset my way,  
I know that at the morn of doom  
    From out the tomb  
With joy to meet Him I shall come.

Then I shall see God face to face,  
I doubt it not, through Jesu's grace,  
Amid the joys prepared for me!  
    Thanks be to Thee  
Who givest us the victory!


O Jesus Christ, Thou Son of God,  
Who once for me didst bear the rod,  
Ah hide me in Thy wounded heart  
    When I depart;  
My help, my hope, Thou only art!

Amen, dear God! now send us faith,  
And at the last a happy death;  
And grant us all ere long to be  
    In heaven with Thee,  
To praise Thee there eternally.

J. PAPPUS. 1598.

## V.

## IN THE NEAR PROSPECT OF DEATH.

 LORD my God, I cry to Thee,  
In my distress Thou helpest me;  
To Thee myself I all commend,  
Oh swiftly now Thine angel send  
To guide me home, and cheer my heart,  
Since Thou dost call me to depart!

O Jesus Christ, Thou Lamb of God,  
Once slain to take away our load,  
Now let Thy cross, Thine agony,  
Avail to save and solace me;  
Thy death to open heaven, and there  
Bid me the joy of angels share.

O Holy Spirit, at the end,  
Sweet Comforter, be Thou my Friend!  
When death and hell assail me fore,  
Leave me, oh leave me, nevermore,  
But bear me safely through that strife,  
As Thou hast promised, into life!

NICHOLAS SELNECKER, 1587.

## VI.

## IN WEAKNESS AND DISTRESS OF MIND.

**L**ORD Jesus Christ, my Life, my Light,  
My strength by day, my trust by night,  
On earth I'm but a passing guest,  
And sorely with my sins oppress'd.

Far off I see my fatherland,  
Where through Thy grace I hope to stand,  
But ere I reach that Paradise  
A weary way before me lies.

My heart sinks at the journey's length,  
My wasted flesh has little strength,  
Only my soul still cries in me,  
Lord, fetch me home, take me to Thee!

Oh let Thy sufferings give me power  
To meet the last and darkest hour;  
Thy prayer refresh and comfort me,  
Thy bonds and fetters set me free!

That thirst and bitter draught of Thine  
Help me to bear with patience mine,  
Thy piercing cry avail my soul,  
When floods of anguish o'er me roll!

And when my lips grow white and chill,  
Thy Spirit cry within me still,  
And help my soul Thy heaven to find,  
When these poor eyes grow dark and blind!

And when the spirit flies away,  
Thy parting words shall be my stay,  
Thy cross the staff whereon I lean,  
My couch the grave where Thou hast been.

Since Thou hast died, the Pure, the Just,  
I take my homeward way in trust,  
The gates of heaven, Lord, open wide,  
When here I may no more abide.

And when the last great Day is come,  
And Thou our Judge shalt speak the doom,  
Let me with joy behold the light,  
And set me then upon Thy right.

Renew this wasted flesh of mine,  
That like the sun it there may shine,  
Among the angels pure and bright,  
Yea, like Thyself in glorious light.

Ah then I have my heart's desire,  
When singing with the angel's choir,  
Among the ransom'd of Thy grace,  
For ever I behold Thy face!

## VII.

## RESIGNATION.

**L**ORD God, now open wide Thy heaven,  
My parting hour is near ;  
My course is run, enough I've striven,  
Enough I've suffer'd here ;  
Weary and sad  
My soul is glad  
That she may lay her down to rest ;  
Now all on earth I can resign,  
But only let Thy heaven be mine.

As Thou, Lord, hast commanded me,  
Have I with perfect faith  
Embraced my Saviour, and to Thee  
I calmly look in death ;  
With willing heart  
I hence depart,  
I hope to stand before Thy face :  
Yes, all on earth I can resign,  
If but thy heaven at last be mine.

'Then let me go like Simeon  
In peace with thee to dwell,

For I commend me to Thy Son,  
And He will guard me well,  
And guide me straight  
To the golden gate ;  
And in this hope I calmly die ;  
Yes, all on earth I can resign,  
If but Thy heaven may now be mine.

T. KIEL. 1620.

## VIII.

THE FAITHFUL SERVANT LONGING  
FOR PEACE.

**L**ORD, now let Thy servant  
Pass in peace away ;  
I have had enough of life,  
Here I would not stay :  
Let me go, if such Thy will,  
With a heart at rest and still.

Here, Lord, have I wrestled,  
Suffer'd many a woe,  
Fought as fearless warriors fight,  
Conquer'd many a foe.  
Kept the faith with them of old,  
Helped to guard and warn Thy fold.

Many an hour of sorrow,  
Many an anguish'd tear,  
Many a thorny path was mine  
With Thy people here ;  
O'er my sins I've had to mourn,  
Many a cross and trial borne.

All at last is ended,  
Fight and race are o'er,  
God will free me now from all  
Ills for evermore ;  
To a better life I go,  
Than this tearful earth can show

Peace shall I find yonder,  
And be free from sin,  
No more strife and wars without,  
No more foes within,  
All around me shall be peace,  
And the joy that cannot cease.

Where they bear the sceptre,  
There a crown for me  
Is laid up through Jesu's grace,  
Bright that crown shall be :  
Deepest calm my soul shall fill,  
And this longing shall be still.

My Redeemer liveth,  
He shall bid me rise  
From the gloomy realm of death,  
There all sorrow lies,  
And I need not fear to wake,  
Since His voice my sleep shall break.

He will change this body,  
Make it like His own,  
When the dead arise from earth,  
When the trump is blown,


I shall see Him face to face,  
Here my steadfast hope I place.

Therefore of His mercy  
Ever will I sing,  
All my heart and soul to Him  
Praise and thanks shall bring;  
Praise Him now, and praise Him then,  
When the heavens shall cry Amen!

DAVID BOHME. 1605-1657.

IX.

THE CHRISTIAN SOLDIER REJOICING  
THAT HE HAS OVERCOME.

HEN now at last the hour is come,  
That I have long'd for many a time,  
When God with joy should call me home  
From this strange land, this wintry  
clime ;

Thy victim, Death, escapes no more,  
The hour draws on when I shall be  
From all the bonds of earth set free,  
And life's long battle shall be o'er.

To combat for His glory here  
The Father sent me forth ;—and lo !  
The hour of victory draws near,  
And conquer'd now is every foe ;  
And I have borne me in the strife  
As true and fearless warriors ought,  
And bravely to the last have fought  
Through all the wars and woes of life.

My cry, when rough the march and dark,  
Was, watch and strive till thou hast won,  
Press forward fearless to the mark !  
As now, thank God, at last I've done.

Now it is o'er, I cannot miss ;  
Through every danger to the death  
True to my Lord I've kept the faith,  
And freely risk'd all else for this.


It lacketh now a few short hours,  
And I am in eternity ;  
The wreath of fadeless heavenly flowers  
Is wound already there for me,  
The crown is waiting for me there,  
Until the fight is wholly fought,  
And all my soul is thither caught,  
Where shining palms the conquerors bear.

But when that morning shall appear,  
When our great Judge, the Son of God,  
Shall give to those who loved Him here  
Their gracious undeserved reward,  
Then in the glorious halls above,  
I too among that host shall stand,  
And take from His all-faithful hand  
The crown of righteousness and love.

Nor shall I yonder stand alone,  
I see the crowned host appear,  
The mighty host before His throne,  
Who shine for ever pure and clear,  
The souls of those, who on their way  
Were longing hour by hour here,  
With burning love, and many a tear,  
To see the glories of that Day.

## X.

## JERUSALEM.

ERUSALEM, thou city fair and high,  
Would God I were in thee!  
My longing heart fain fain to thee would  
fly,

It will not stay with me;  
Far over vale and mountain,  
Far over field and plain,  
It hastes to seek its Fountain  
And quit this world of pain.

Oh happy day, and yet far happier hour,  
When wilt thou come at last?  
When fearless to my Father's love and power,  
Whose promise standeth fast,  
My soul I gladly render,  
For surely will His hand  
Lead her with guidance tender  
To heaven her fatherland.

A moment's space, and gently, wondrously,  
Released from earthly ties,  
The fiery chariot bears her up to thee  
Through all these lower skies,

To yonder shining regions,  
While down to meet her come  
The blessed angel legions,  
And bid her welcome home.

Oh hail thou glorious city ! now unfold  
The gates of grace to me !  
How many a time I long'd for thee of old,  
Ere yet I was set free  
From yon dark life of sadness,  
Yon world of shadowy nought,  
And God had given the gladness,  
The heritage I fought.

Oh what the nation, what the glorious host,  
Comes sweeping swiftly down ?  
The chosen ones on earth who wrought the most,  
'The Church's brightest crown,  
Our Lord hath sent to meet me,  
As in the far-off years  
'Their words oft came to greet me  
In yonder land of tears.

'The Patriarchs' and Prophets' noble train,  
With all Christ's followers true,  
Who bore the cross, and could the worst disdain  
'That tyrants dared to do,  
I see them shine for ever,  
All-glorious as the sun,  
'Mid light that fadeth never,  
'Their perfect freedom won.


And when within that lovely Paradise  
At last I safely dwell,  
From out my blissful soul what songs shall rise,  
What joy my lips shall tell,  
While holy saints are singing  
Hofannas o'er and o'er,  
Pure Hallelujahs ringing  
Around me evermore.

Innumerable choirs before the shining throne  
Their joyful anthems raise,  
Till Heaven's glad halls are echoing with the tone  
Of that great hymn of praise,  
And all its host rejoices,  
And all its blessed throng  
Unite their myriad voices  
In one eternal song!

J. M. MEYFART. 1634.

## XI.

THE NEW HEAVENS AND NEW  
EARTH.

OW fain my joyous heart would sing  
That lovely summer-time,  
When God reneweth everything  
In His celestial prime;  
When He shall make new heavens and earth,  
And all the creatures there  
Shall spring from out that second birth  
All-glorious, pure, and fair.

The perfect beauty of that sphere  
No mortal tongue may speak,  
We have no likeness for it here,  
Our words are far too weak;  
And we must wait till we behold  
The hour of judgment true,  
That to the soul shall all unfold  
What God is, and can do.

For God ere long will summon all  
Who e'er on earth were born,  
This flesh shall hear the trumpet's call  
And live again that morn,

And when in Christ His Son we wake,  
 These skies asunder roll,  
 And all the bliss of heaven shall break  
 Upon the raptured soul.


And He will lead the white-robed throng  
 To His fair Paradise,  
 Where from the marriage-feast the song  
 Of endless praise shall rise,  
 And from His fathomless abyss  
 Of perfect love and truth,  
 Shall flow perpetual joy and bliss,  
 In never-ending youth.

Ah God, now lead me of Thy love  
 Through this dark world aright ;  
 Lord Christ, defend me lest I rove  
 Or lies delude my sight ;  
 And keep me steadfast in the faith  
 Till these dark days have ceased,  
 And ready still in life or death  
 For Thy great marriage-feast.

And herewith will I end the song  
 Of that fair summer-time ;  
 The blossoms shall burst out ere long  
 Of heaven's eternal prime,  
 The year begin, for ever new ;  
 God grant us then on high  
 To see our vision here made true,  
 And eat the fruits of joy !

## XII.

## THE FINAL JOY.


 AKE, awake, for night is flying,  
 The watchmen on the heights are  
     crying ;  
     Awake, Jerusalem, at last !  
 Midnight hears the welcome voices,  
 And at the thrilling cry rejoices :  
     Come forth, ye virgins, night is past !  
     The Bridegroom comes, awake,  
     Your lamps with gladness take ;  
         Hallelujah !  
 And for His marriage-feast prepare,  
 For ye must go to meet Him there.


Zion hears the watchmen singing,  
 And all her heart with joy is springing,  
     She wakes, she rises from her gloom ;  
 For her Lord comes down all-glorious,  
 The strong in grace, in truth victorious,  
     Her Star is risen, her Light is come !  
     Ah come, Thou blessed Lord,  
     O Jesus, Son of God,  
         Hallelujah !  
 We follow till the halls we see  
 Where Thou hast bid us sup with Thee.

---

Now let all the heavens adore Thee,  
And men and angels sing before Thee  
    With harp and cymbal's clearest tone ;  
Of one pearl each shining portal,  
Where we are with the choir immortal  
    Of angels round Thy dazzling throne ;  
    Nor eye hath seen, nor ear  
    Hath yet attain'd to hear  
        What there is ours,  
But we rejoice, and sing to Thee  
Our hymn of joy eternally.

PHILIP NICOLAI. 1598.


## THE END.


 WHEN the Lord recalls the banish'd,  
 Frees the captives all at last,  
 Every sorrow will have vanish'd  
 Like a dream when night is past;  
 Then shall all our hearts rejoice,  
 And with glad resounding voice  
 We shall praise the Lord who fought us,  
 For the freedom He hath wrought us.

Lift Thy hand to aid us, Father,  
 Look on us who widely roam,  
 And Thy scatter'd children gather  
 In their long'd-for promised home;  
 Steep and weary is the way,  
 Shorten Thou the sultry day,  
 Faithful warriors hast Thou found us,  
 Let Thy peace for aye surround us.

In that peace we reap in gladness  
 What was sown in tearful showers:  
 There the fruit of all our sadness  
 Ripens,—there the palm is ours;  
 There our God upon His throne  
 Is our full reward alone;  
 They who all for God surrender  
 Bring their sheaves in heavenly splendour.

## INDEX.

	Page
 BIDE among us with Thy grace . . . . .	120
Ah God, my days are dark indeed . . . . .	245
Ah dearest Lord! to feel that thou . . . . .	224
Ah, Jesus, the merit . . . . .	56
Alas! my Lord and God . . . . .	177
All my heart this night rejoices . . . . .	32
All praise and thanks to God most High . . . . .	196
All things hang on our possessing . . . . .	250
Arise, the kingdom is at hand . . . . .	23
A pilgrim here I wander . . . . .	230
As a bird in meadows fair . . . . .	106
Blessed Jesus, at Thy word . . . . .	99
Blessed Jesus, here we stand . . . . .	122
Can I my fate no more withstand . . . . .	236
Christ the Lord is risen again . . . . .	62
Christ will gather in His own . . . . .	165
Conquering Prince and Lord of glory . . . . .	76
Courage, my sorely-tempted heart . . . . .	192
Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness . . . . .	133
Ere yet the dawn hath fill'd the skies . . . . .	64
Ever would I fain be reading . . . . .	47
Faith is a living power from heaven . . . . .	212
Gentle Shepherd, Thou hast still'd . . . . .	167
Hark, the Church proclaims her honour . . . . .	88
Here behold me, as I cast me . . . . .	226
He who'd make the prize his own . . . . .	222
Him on yonder cross I love . . . . .	57
Holy Spirit, once again . . . . .	81
I am baptized into Thy name . . . . .	129

---

I know my end must surely come . . . .	266
I know in whom I put my trust . . . .	216
In God's name let us on our way . . . .	148
In our sails all soft and sweetly . . . .	159
In Thee is gladness . . . . .	207
I say to all men, far and near . . . , .	66
Is thy heart athrill to know . . . . .	45
I who so oft in deep distress . . . . .	201
Jerusalem, thou city fair and high . . . .	285
Jesus, pitying Saviour, hear me. . . . .	180
Jesus, whom Thy Church doth own . . . .	139
Light of light enlighten me . . . . .	97
Lord, all my heart is fix'd on Thee . . . .	218
Lord, a whole long day of pain . . . . .	116
Lord God, now open wide Thy heaven . . .	278
Lord Jesus Christ, my faithful Shepherd . .	131
Lord Jesus Christ, in Thee alone . . . . .	175
Lord Jesus Christ, my Life, my Light. . . .	276
Lord Jesus, who our souls to save . . . . .	61
Lo, heaven and earth, and sea and air . . .	199
Lord, now let Thy servant . . . . .	280
My cause is God's and I am still . . . . .	273
My God, in Thee all fulness lies . . . . .	252
My Jesus, if the seraphim . . . . .	78
Now at last I end the strife . . . . .	220
Now darkness over all is spread . . . . .	118
Now fain my joyous heart would sing . . .	288
Now lay we calmly in the grave . . . . .	161
Now weeping at the grave we stand . . . .	163
Now take my heart and all that is in me. .	137
Now thank we all our God . . . . .	194
Now the pearly gates unfold . . . . .	234
Now we must leave our fatherland . . . .	157
O Blessed Jesus! This . . . . .	39
O Christ our true and only Light . . . . .	43
O Christ, Thou bright and Morning Star .	238
O faithful God! O pitying Heart . . . . .	242

---

O Father-eye, that hath so truly watch'd. . . . .	93
O Father-heart, who hast created all . . . . .	124
O God, Thou faithful God . . . . .	186
O how could I forget Him . . . . .	142
O Jesus, Lord of majesty . . . . .	183
O King of glory! David's Son. . . . .	41
O Living Bread from Heaven . . . . .	144
O Lord, be this our vessel now . . . . .	153
O Lord my God, I cry to Thee . . . . .	275
O Love, who formedst me to wear . . . . .	135
O mighty Spirit! Source whence . . . . .	205
Once more the day-light shines abroad . . . . .	100
O risen Lord! O conquering King . . . . .	68
O Thou Most Highest! Guardian of mankind	104
O world! behold upon the tree . . . . .	52
Sad with longing, sick with fears . . . . .	70
Seeing I am Jesu's lamb : . . . . .	128
Seems it in my anguish lone. . . . .	264
Since Christ is gone to heaven, His home . . . . .	75
Sink not yet, my soul, to slumber . . . . .	112
Spread, O spread, thou mighty Word . . . . .	89
Sweetest joy the soul can know . . . . .	84
Thank God it hath refounded . . . . .	209
Thank God that towards eternity . . . . .	28
The Church of Christ that He . . . . .	87
The golden morn flames up the Eastern sky . . . . .	108
The night is come, wherein at last. . . . .	110
Thee Fount of blessing we adore . . . . .	91
Then now at last the hour is come . . . . .	283
Thou fairest Child Divine . . . . .	36
Though Love may weep with breaking heart . . . . .	166
Thou'rt mine, yes, still Thou art mine own . . . . .	168
'Thou, solemn Ocean, rollest to the strand . . . . .	155
Thou, fore-oppress'd, the Sabbath-rest . . . . .	59
Thou who breakest every chain . . . . .	189
Thy parents' arms now yield thee. . . . .	126
To-day our Lord went up on high . . . . .	73

---

True mirror of the Godhead ! Perfect Light	95
Up ! yes, upward to thy gladness . . . .	228
Wake, awake, for night is flying . . . .	290
Whate'er my God ordains is right. . . .	259
What pleases God, O pious soul . . . .	256
When anguish'd and perplex'd . . . .	102
Whene'er again thou sinkest . . . .	49
When in the hour of utmost need . . . .	240
When the Lord recall the banish'd . . . .	292
Where'er I go, whate'er my task . . . .	149
Wherefore dost Thou longer tarry . . . .	25
Wherefore should I grieve and pine . . . .	261
Who keepeth not God's word, yet faith . . . .	214
Who knows how near my end may be . . . .	267
Who puts his trust in God most just . . . .	254
Why art thou thus cast down, my heart . . . .	248
World, farewell ! of thee I'm tired . . . .	270
Ye heavens, oh haste your dews to shed . . . .	21

# TABLE OF GERMAN HYMNS.

## PART I.

ADVENT.	Page
1. Ihr Himmel tröpfelt Thau in Eil . . .	21
2. Auf, auf, ihr Reichsgenossen . . .	23
3. Warum willst du draußen stehn . . .	25
4. Gottlob ein Schritt zur Ewigkeit . . .	28
CHRISTMAS.	
1. Fröhlich soll mein Herz springen . . .	32
2. Du schönstes Gotteskind . . .	36
3. Herr Jesu Christ dein Kripplein ist . . .	39
EPIPHANY.	
1. O König aller Ehren . . .	41
2. O Jesu Christe wahres Licht . . .	43
3. Wer im Herzen will erfahren . . .	45
4. Immer muß ich wieder lesen . . .	47
PASSION WEEK.	
1. Wenn je du wieder zagst . . .	49
2. O Welt, sieh hier dein Leben . . .	52
3. Ach Jesu, dein Sterben . . .	56
4. Der am Kreuz ist meine Liebe . . .	57
5. Nun gehst auch Du . . .	59
6. Der Du, Herr Jesu, Ruh und Raht . . .	61
EASTER.	
1. Christus ist erstanden . . .	62
2. Fröhlichs da die Sonn aufgeht . . .	64
3. Ich sage Jedem daß Er lebt . . .	66
4. O auferstandener Siegesfürst . . .	68
5. Trauernd und mit bangem Sehnen . . .	70
ASCENSION.	
1. Auf diesen Tag bedenken wir . . .	73
2. Auf Christi Himmelfahrt . . .	75
3. Siegesfürst und Ehrenkönig . . .	76
4. Mein Jesu, den die Seraphinen . . .	78

## WHITSUNTIDE.

1. Komm O komm, du Geist des Lebens . . . 81
2. O Du allersüßte Freude . . . . . 84
3. Die Kirche Christi die Er geweiht . . . 87
4. Dißs ist der Gemeinde Stärke . . . . 88
5. Walte walte nah und fern . . . . . 89

## TRINITY.

1. Brunn alles Heils, dich ehren wir . . . 91
2. O Vaterhand die mich so treu geführt 93
3. Dreieinigkeit, der Gottheit wahrer Spiegel 95

## MORNING PRAYER.

1. Licht von Licht erleuchte mich . . . 97
2. Liebster Jesu, wir find hier . . . . . 99
3. Es geht daher des Tages Schein . . . 100
4. Wenn ich in Agnst und Noth . . . . . 102
5. O allerhöchster Menschenhüter . . . 104
6. Wie ein Vogel lieblich fíngt . . . . . 106
7. Im Osten flammt empor die goldene Sonne 108

## EVENING PRAYER.

1. Die Nacht ist kommen darin wir ruhen 110
2. Werde munter mein Gemüthe . . . . . 112
3. Herr, ein ganzer Leidenstag . . . . . 116
4. Es ruht die Nacht auf Erden . . . . . 118
5. Ach bleib mit deiner Gnade . . . . . 120

## BAPTISM.

1. Liebster Jesu wir find hier . . . . . 122
2. O Vaterherz das Erd und Himmel schuf 124
3. Aus deiner Eltern Armen . . . . . 126
4. Weil ich Jesu Schäflein bin . . . . . 128
5. Ich bin getauft auf deinen Namen . . . 129

## COMMUNION.

1. Herr Jesu Christe mein getreuer Hirte . 131
2. Schmücke, dich O liebe Seele . . . . 133
3. Liebe die Du mich so milde . . . . . 135
4. Nun nimm mein Herz und alles was  
ich bin . . . . . 137
5. Jesu der Du bist alleine . . . . . 139

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 6. Wie könnt ich Sein vergeffen . . . . | 142 |
| 7. Wie wohl hast du gelabet . . . .     | 144 |

## FOR TRAVELLERS.

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. In Gottesnamen reisen wir . . . .      | 148 |
| 2. In allen unsern Thaten . . . .         | 149 |
| 3. O Herr laß unser Schiffein heute . . . | 153 |
| 4. Wie schäumt so feierlich . . . .       | 155 |
| 5. Einst fahren wir vom Vaterland . . .   | 157 |
| 6. In die Segel sanft und linde . . . .   | 159 |

## BURIAL.

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| 1. Nun laßt uns den Leib begraben . . .  | 161 |
| 2. Am Grabe stehn wir stille . . . .     | 163 |
| 3. Aller Gläubigen Sammelplatz . . . .   | 165 |
| 4. Mag auch die Liebe weinen . . . .     | 166 |
| 5. Guter Hirt, Du hast gestillet . . . . | 167 |
| 6. Du bist zwar mein und bleibest mein . | 168 |

## PART II.

## PENITENCE.

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. Allein zu dir Herr Jesu Christ . . . . | 175 |
| 2. Ach Gott und Herr wie groß und schwer  | 177 |
| 3. Jesu mein Erbarmer höre . . . .        | 180 |
| 4. O Jesu König hoch zu ehren . . . .     | 183 |
| 5. O Gott du frommer Gott . . . .         | 186 |
| 6. O Durchbrecher aller Bande . . . .     | 189 |
| 7. Brich durch mein angefochtnes . . . .  | 192 |

## THANKSGIVING.

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. Nun danket alle Gott . . . .           | 194 |
| 2. Sei Lob und Ehr dem höchsten Gut . .   | 196 |
| 3. Himmel Erde Luft und Meer . . . .      | 199 |
| 4. Ich der ich oft in großer Noth . . . . | 201 |
| 5. O großer Geist, O Ursprung . . . .     | 205 |
| 6. In dir ist Freude . . . .              | 207 |
| 7. Gottlob, nun ist erschollen . . . .    | 209 |

## THE LIFE OF FAITH.

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. Der Glaub ist eine lebendige Kraft . . | 212 |
|---|-----|

2.	Wer hält nicht Gottes Wort doch spricht	214
3.	Ich weiß an wen ich glaube . . . .	216
4.	Herzlich lieb hab ich dich O Herr . .	218
5.	Nun so will ich denn mein Leben . .	220
6.	Wer das Kleinod will erlangen . . .	222
7.	Ach mein Herr Jesu dein Nahefeyn .	224
8.	Sieh hier bin ich Ehrenkönig . . .	226
9.	Auf hinauf zu deiner Freude . . .	228
10.	Ich bin ein Gast auf Erden . . . .	230
11.	Oeffne nun die Perlenthoren . . . .	234

## SONGS OF THE CROSS.

1.	Mag ich Unglück nicht widerstehn . .	236
2.	O Christe Morgensterne . . . . .	238
3.	Wenn wir in höchsten Nöthen sein . .	240
4.	Ach treuer Gott, barmherzigs Herz . .	242
5.	Ach Gott wie manches Herzeleid . .	245
6.	Warum betrübst du dich mein Herz . .	248
7.	Alles ist an Gottes Segen . . . . .	250
8.	Mein Gott bei dir ist alle Fülle . . .	252
9.	Wer Gott vertraut hat wohl gebaut . .	254
10.	Was Gott gefällt O frommes Kind . .	256
11.	Was Gott thut das ist wohlgethan . .	259
12.	Warum sollt ich mich denn grämen . .	261
13.	Sollt es denn bisweilen . . . . .	264

## THE FINAL CONFLICT AND HEAVEN.

1.	Ich weiß es wird mein Ende kommen .	266
2.	Wer weiß wienahc mir mein Ende . .	267
3.	Welt, lebwohl, ich bin dein müde . .	270
4.	Ich hab mein Sachi Gott heimgestellt .	273
5.	O Herre Gott ich ruf zu dir . . . .	275
6.	Herr Jesu Christ mein Lebens Licht . .	276
7.	Herr Gott nun schleuß dein Himmel auf	278
8.	Herr nun laß in Friede . . . . .	280
9.	So ist's an dem dafz ich mit Freude . .	283
10.	Jerusalem du hoch gebaute Stadt . .	285
11.	Herzlich thut mich erfreuen . . . . .	288
12.	Wachet auf, ruft uns die Strimme . .	290
13.	Wann der Herr einß die Gefangenen .	292











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